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THE NEWSPAPER FOR ASHFORD, TENTERDEN AND SURROUNDING VILLAGES



Issue No 64
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November 26, 2008



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TOP GEAR STAR LAYS INTO SHARED SPACE

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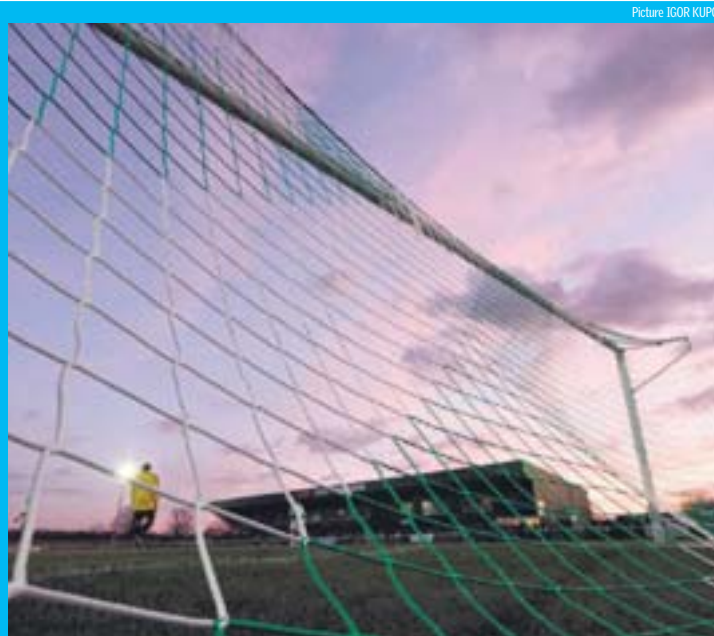
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ISSN 1753-117-9



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Picture IGOR KUPCO

CLUB'S £8M PLANS ON TRACK

Ashford Town FC club chiefs say the credit crunch will not derail hugely ambitious plans to create an £8 million sporting village on the site of its Homelands ground in Kingsnorth.

Meanwhile, pressure is beginning to grow on club boss Steve Lovell after his side continued their run without a win. FULL STORY - SEE PAGE 54.

Now council chief invites Clarkson to discuss the scheme

BY CHRIS BRITCHER

MOTORMOUTH TV presenter Jeremy Clarkson has blasted Ashford's controversial town centre shared space traffic scheme.

The Top Gear presenter joined those mocking the innovative strategy, claiming it was "piffle" and only a matter of time before someone is killed.

He then branded those behind the scheme as "idiots".

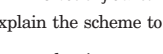
Now Kent County Council leader Paul Carter says he would be only too happy to meet up with the TV star to explain the scheme to him personally.

Controversial Clarkson - who in recent weeks prompted complaints for suggesting lorry drivers murdered prostitutes - made the comments in his latest column in The Sun newspaper on Saturday.

In it, he poured scorn on the shared space scheme which, drawing on similar schemes in Europe and London, does away with obvious divides between paths and road, calming

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

ATTACK: Jeremy Clarkson



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TOP TV CLIPS



1 Reindeer prepare for Christmas on the farm. See web TV site www.yourkenttv.co.uk and search 'reindeer'.



2 KOS Media's £1 million Business Challenge. See web TV site www.yourkenttv.co.uk and search 'challenge'



3 Our weekly round-up of the county's top football news. See web TV site www.yourkenttv.co.uk and see the sports channel

SEE OUR SISTER PAPERS KENT ON SUNDAY AND THE SATURDAY EDITION FOR ALL THE WEEKEND'S COUNTY NEWS AND SPORT

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CASH FLOW: Nina Perucho's *How To Manage Your Bank Account* (below) aims to help readers through the minefield of banking jargon as they look to keep a grip on their finances

Author banking on book to be a stocking filler

■ BY ED HILL

COULD this be the perfect credit crunch Christmas present this year? Well, one local woman certainly hopes so.

Nicola Perucho from Kennington has just published her own book aimed at guiding people through the minefield of bank jargon and charges and keep a firm control on their finances.

And, after five years in the finance business, she hopes the book – *How to Manage Your Finances* – will help swell her bank balance too.

She said: "I speak to hundreds of people about their bank accounts every day and it became clear to me that people did not understand how the charges worked on their account. They did not understand a lot of the terminology."

With her experience she concluded that there was a gap in the market for a clear and simple explanation of banking procedure that the average customer could understand.

She said: "Not only are people struggling with the bank that I work

for, it must be a similar story all over the country. I think people are afraid of their bank and are intimidated to ask for help. People don't understand the charges and can be caught out."

Mrs Perucho has lived in the town for ten years. Prior to her career in finance she worked in the recruitment and catering industries.

She said: "I wanted to educate people that banking is not a big mystery and if you know what you are doing you can get it to work in your favour."



"I had not done anything like this before and it was hard work juggling it with my job and looking after my son. It took up all my spare time."

"I had to design the layout of the book and the cover and deal with things like copyright. It was a whole new experience for me

but at the end of the day I felt that I have got to get this message out there."

The author says at times she felt like giving up but the book's message became a campaign.

She added: "In this day and age every penny counts. It's just about helping people."

• *How to Manage Your Bank Account* is priced £7.99 and available online from retailers such as Waterstones.com.

Clarkson: 'Call me a mad old buffoon but how about this idea?'

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE
traffic and giving pedestrians more freedom to move around the town centre.

Clarkson said: "They've deliberately made the ring road narrower to create this shared space."

"A place where cars and pedestrians all get on in perfect harmony."

"Yes, in the same way keepers at London Zoo could put all the animals in the same cage and sit back hoping that Baby Jesus will stop the lions from eating the goats."

"Someone is going to be killed, you idiots. Either because they walked into the road, not knowing it was road, or because a motorist drove down the pavement not knowing it was pavement."

Now KCC leader Paul Carter – a self-confessed petrol-head who last year took part in the Peking to Paris rally – says he wants to sit down with the star and explain the concept.

Although Mr Carter stopped short of inviting Mr Clarkson to Ashford to see the scheme for himself, he told Yourashford: "I'd like to talk to Jeremy and explain it to him."

"I was at the ground-breaking last year and I have since been back to have a look at its progress."

"I thought it looked fantastic. It's just what Ashford needs. It's modern and contemporary, and very well designed. This is the first stage. We have got to build other highway schemes when we get the funding from the Government or developer contributions."

"It's a completely different experience. It's a shared space where people change their behaviours – both motorists and pedestrians. The professionals say it does make drivers and pedestrians more cautious and has worked in other countries."

The project hit national headlines earlier this month after KCC forked out £15,000 on a DVD instructing locals how to safely cross the road and drive. Tips included telling pedestrians to engage motorists in eye contact before stepping out.

Mr Clarkson added: "Why can't councils try this for an idea instead?"

"Make the road as straight and as fast as possible so people can get to work quickly and keep the wheels of industry turning."

"And then build foot bridges and railings to keep the cars away from those who choose to walk. Call me a mad old buffoon. But I think such a scheme might actually work."

• **WHAT do you think?** Do you agree with Jeremy Clarkson – or believe this is a brave step to a safer town centre? Email: yourashford@kosmedia.co.uk or write to The Editor, Yourashford, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR.

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Services



For information and advice on travelling in Kent and for all our traffic regulation orders, please see the Saturday Observer or the Kent on Sunday or visit our website at www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Ashley's family are awaiting answers

Finally, inquest to open into mystery death of teenager

NEARLY 16 months after he disappeared, an inquest into the death of Kennington teenager Ashley Dighton is to take place.

The inquest – to open at Ashford Magistrates' Court on December 4 – will look to determine the cause of death.

Police launched a murder investigation after the body of the 19-year-old from Nine Acres was found in woodland behind the Warren Retail Park on Simone Weil Avenue.

But despite television appeals and a forensic investigation, there have been no arrests.

Police spokesman Jon Green said: "This was a big investigation. Evidence has been gathered together, so the coroner is satisfied they can have the inquest."

"With an investigation of this scale it is not unusual for it to have taken this length of time."

Mr Dighton's body was discovered in July 2007, a month after he was last seen alive, in a woodland known as 'the dip' behind the retail park.

On June 10 he was recorded on

■ BY ED HILL

CCTV at County Square shopping centre, but mystery surrounds what happened to Mr Dighton in the moments after he was last seen by witnesses leaving Sainsbury's at the retail park.

Det Ch Insp Dave Withers, the officer leading the case, said at the time: "We do not know how Ashley died. Even if he was killed accidentally I think someone would have shared that secret."

Earlier this year, on the anniversary of the last time Mr Dighton was seen alive, the police broadcast an appeal for information on ITV Meridian.

The programme resulted in a number of calls which the police said they would investigate.

Det Ch Insp Withers said: "This is very hard for the family. There is no closure for them."

"They need to know what happened to their son and their brother before they can move on."

If you have any information for the police, telephone 01622 654860 or the free and confidential Crimestoppers line on 0800 555111.



TRAGIC LOSS: Ashley Dighton was found dead in July 2007

Wheelie taken for entertaining ride

SHOPPERS were treated to an unusual choreographed display at County Square on Friday – by mobility scooters.

Six members of the Red Wheelies Formation Display Team dodged each other and the Costa Coffee bar to entertain busy Christmas shoppers.

They were at the centre to mark the opening of the new Shopmobility branch at County Square. The Red Wheelies team is made up of members from the Kent Multiple Sclerosis Therapy Centre.

The charity supplies electric buggies and wheelchairs to people who need help when shopping in the town centre.

Mayor John Link and MP Damian Green attended the opening of the new shop.

The unit has been fitted out by the Ashford Construction Focus Group, with works worth nearly £40,000 supplied free by the group and other contractors and suppliers.

Managers say Shopmobility needs annual funding of about £30,000 to keep operational.

They are still looking for town sponsors to help sustain the service.

VIEW THIS CLIP ON

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Don't miss the Red Wheelies in full flow. Search 'wheelies'

Date with destiny for top village

SMARDEN will learn on Tuesday whether it has been crowned England's top village.

Having reached the final of the 2008 Calor Village of the Year for England competition, the winner will be announced during an awards luncheon at the Guildhall in the City of London.

Smarden was revealed as the South England regional winner in June and villagers have been on tenterhooks ever since, keen to learn if that success can be repeated nationally.

The England title would mean an additional £7,000 in prize money to add to the £2,000 the village took as regional winner.

Smarden would also have a chance of being named UK Village of the Year should it win the England title, going head-to-head with winners from Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales.

Smarden is up against four other regional winners in its bid for the England title: Sadberge, Tees Valley (North); Levington, Suffolk (East); Grampound with Creed, Cornwall (West); and Seagrave, Leicestershire (Central).

Chill out and join Invicta's Gemma at Ice World rink

ITS launch may have been delayed by a week due to technical problems, but the ice rink in Charter House car park is finally up and running.

And on Friday thousands will tune in to hear the fun as the county's leading commercial radio station, Invicta FM, broadcasts live from the rink.

Gemma Shepherd, the new co-host of the breakfast show with James Heming, will be broadcasting from Ice World.

And they are inviting listeners to join them to skate for free between 6am and 10am.

Ice World is a 24-metre rink capable of taking 120 skaters at a time, which will provide a huge boost to the town centre's bid to lure Christmas shoppers.

The scheduled opening two weeks ago hit the skids because of problems getting the water to freeze on

the rink, but that has now been resolved.

Meanwhile, excitement is building over the Ashford Winter Festival, which takes place on Friday and Saturday in the town centre, from 9am to 5.30pm.

A host of events will take place across the major shopping hubs in what is bound to be the perfect way to start the countdown to Christmas. Attractions include local and continental foods and crafts.

Ice World's normal opening hours are 4pm to 10pm weekdays, and 10am to 10pm at weekends.

One-hour sessions on the ice cost £6.95 per person and includes skate hire.

From December 17 it will be open 10am to 10pm every day.

For further details of Invicta's early morning skating session, tune in to James and Gemma this week.

Perfect gift for Christmas

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NEWS IN BRIEF**Police search for thieves who wore Scream masks**

CROOKS wearing masks from horror movie Scream robbed a teenager of a bag containing his mobile phone and valuables.

The crime took place in Victoria Park on November 7 between 7.30pm and 8pm. Police are eager for any witnesses to come forward. The bag stolen was by Nike and contained a Sony Ericsson K750i phone.

The four thieves struck near the fountain. All were wearing black hoodies and Scream masks. Witnesses should call 01303 289180 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

Crime meeting puts safety first in our communities

BBC Crimewatch presenter Rav Wilding was in town on Friday taking part in the Annual Community Safety Conference at the Ashford International Hotel.

Representatives from Kent County Council, Kent Police and Police Authority and Kent Fire and Rescue met with colleagues from the NHS, Kent Criminal Justice Board and voluntary organisations from across the county to help communities work together to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour.

Mr Wilding, from Maidstone, has put his police career on hold to pursue TV work.

Poundland opens doors in County Square centre

THE prospect of a bargain is even more important in times of a tightening economy – but perhaps surprisingly it's coming to the new multi-million pound County Square complex.

Poundland is moving into the former JJB Sports shop and will open its doors early next month and in good time for the surge in Christmas custom.

The retailer is the largest £1 chain in the country. Earlier this year Mad Max in the Lower High Street, another bargain basement shop, closed its doors.

Candidates named for youth council elections

FIVE youngsters from the town are standing in elections for the Kent Youth County Council (KYCC) this year.

They are Freddy Denne, 14 from Swadelands, Ariba Karim and Emma Clay both 15, from Highworth, Ami Goodall, 15, from Christ Church and Dara Farrell, 15 from St Anselm's.

KYCC is a non-party political organisation representing views of Kent's youth.

Festive fun down on the reindeer farm

■ BY WENDY DOUGLAS SINCLAIR

FATHER Christmas has arrived on a farm in Bethersden – and is feeling right at home amid a remarkable herd of 100 reindeer.

For the jolly old red-faced fellow has set up in his grotto on Capralama Farm – better known locally simply as The Reindeer Centre. And for the weeks surrounding the festive season it becomes one of the most topical places for young and old to make a pilgrimage to.

But for the couple behind the project, it is a year-round business which has to pay its way on and around the big day.

Sandra and Mike Fagg have made reindeer their business for the past six years after years spent breeding livestock. Encouraged by government guidance to diversify Mrs Fagg and her daughter decided to raise reindeer not for food or their skins... but for Christmas.

And from what started as a hobby is now a key part of their business – with the reindeer being hired out for personal appearances up and down the country; including an upcoming booking in London's busy Bond Street.

There was even a TV crew from CBeebies at the centre last week, filming a feature on the animals for an upcoming show.

Mr Fagg said: "There is little known in the UK about looking after reindeer, so it has been a bit of a learning curve. They are high maintenance, their food is more than double the price of sheep feed and we worm them twice as much as our other livestock."

"Since the reindeer only pay for their keep



Picture: ED HILL

SEASONAL FRIENDS: Mike and Sandra Fagg have a herd of over 100 reindeer at Capralama Farm in Bethersden

five to six weeks a year, it's an expensive hobby."

But they will certainly help pay their way over the coming weeks; especially with Father Christmas setting up in his grotto from now until Christmas Eve.

Crowds are set to descend on the farm to see

the magnificent creatures and get in the mood for the festive season. Youngsters, not surprisingly, are particularly excited – especially as there are a host of other animals to see too, including goats, pigs, llamas and wallabies.

• For more details see www.reindeercentre.co.uk or call 01233 820545.

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Wendy's our reporter for a day

THIS week the team at Your Ashford were joined by a new member of staff.

Wendy Douglas Sinclair, from Beaver Road, got the chance to be a reporter for the day after bidding for the prize at a charity auction run to raise funds for Aldington Primary School.

And after winning the auction with her three-figure bid, she had a day in the newsroom and went out and about with roving reporter Ed Hill.

She said: "I think people knew I was really keen to do it so they kept raising the bids."

The former model has had a varied career, pre-

viously she was a stunt woman, TV presenter and actress.

She spent part of her day at a reindeer farm near Bethersden – the result of which you can read above.

You can also see a video report of life on the farm by logging on to our free broadband TV website www.yourkenttv.co.uk. Simply search 'reindeer'.

Added Mrs Douglas Sinclair: "I have had an amazing day."

"It has been interesting having to write in a way which has to include such a lot of information."

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TOGETHER: The cattle market developed as both a place of trade and a centre for the community

View market history in our online film

WHEN a landmark is closed in the name of progress it's no wonder there are mixed feelings, and that is certainly the case when it comes to Ashford Cattle Market.

Although it continues to flourish today on its new home on the Orbital Park, the site at Elwick Road is the one people remember with great fondness.

Based in the centre of town it became not only a place to trade, but also a meeting place and important part of the community.

And now you can take a walk back down memory lane in the first part of an exclusive online documentary.

Available to view on our free, broadband TV website, www.yourkenttv.co.uk, we take a look at the history of the site, the people who visited it, and how it continues to play a key role in the town's future.

If you're new to the town it's the ideal way to catch up on the history of one of the most important aspects of our town - or simply refresh your memory of the role it plays.

Established as a company in 1856 it's one of the oldest surviving in the country.

History was made when graziers and agriculturists met at the Saracens Head in the

■ BY JULIE MADDOCKS

town and formed Ashford Cattle Market Ltd. In the same year thanks to Lord of the Manor, George Elwick Jemmett, who offered them a field to use, it found a home at what became the much loved Elwick Road site for over 140 years.

And, as a result, played a pivotal role in the lives of so many.

Curator of the museum Alan Terry recalls, "Every Tuesday a group of us kids would meet up at the market, to just enjoy the atmosphere. It was a great day out. To watch the auctioneer at work was fascinating."

In 1997 the market was moved to the outskirts of town as the town saw much of its history uprooted to make way for the arrival of the high-speed rail link.

With the changing face of Ashford, the former market site has all but disappeared, but the surrounding wall has been retained.

To mark the history of the bricks and mortar, local artist Cathy Streeter has engraved the images of cattle that would have been sold there.

The art project - Til the Cows Come Home - will include recorded conversations of people's memories along with the images.

See the film and share your stories

VIEW part one of the cattle market film today by logging on to our free broadband TV website www.yourkenttv.co.uk.

You can find the clip by looking in the leisure channel, or simply put 'cattle' in the search box. And don't miss next week's second part - pick up Yourashford to find out the details.

If you have any memories of places in Kent which are special to you, why not share them with us? Contact Julie Maddocks on 01303 817109 or julie.maddocks@kosmedia.co.uk.

VIEW THIS CLIP ON
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yourashford
NEWS IN BRIEF

Newtown Road housing plans get the thumbs-up

COUNCILLORS have backed plans to transform the former railway works off Newtown Road; paving the way for more than 140 new homes.

The 19.5-acre site will be transformed into a mixed-use development with apartments, commercial space and car parking by developers Kier Construction. The site was used as a railway works from 1847 to 1962 but in recent years has been neglected and was coined an 'eyesore' by locals.

Plans were put before council planners last week, just days after a major 350 home development on the other side of the railway tracks - at Hunter Avenue - were also given the conditional green light.

Cllr Kemp, portfolio holder for planning and development said: "The Newtown Works site is an important yet a rundown part of the town. We hope these plans will help rejuvenate the area and bring it back to life."

"The design proposals have attempted to create a real sense of place which complements the historic industrial building and integrates with the adjacent community."

Surgeries close as our GPs go on training day

DOCTORS surgeries in the town will be closed from 1-6.30pm today for staff training.

The Eastern and Coastal Kent Primary Care Trust (PCT) has organised an educational afternoon for staff in surgeries where they can discuss and debate current issues around NHS services.

Local out of hours services will provide cover for the surgeries, so anyone who needs to see a doctor urgently will still be able to do so. If you do need to see a doctor urgently contact your surgery in the normal way for advice.

Windscreen shattered as brick is thrown at bus

PASSENGERS in a coach travelling along the A2070 near Hamstreet had a lucky escape after a brick was thrown at it as it passed under a bridge.

The incident took place at around 4.30pm on November 13 as the coach passed under the bridge near the roundabout with the junction of Bridgefields at Park Farm.

Shattered glass from damage to the windscreen came into the coach, but no-one was hurt.

PC Darren Laker said: "This could have caused seriously injury to the driver or passengers. I would like to speak to anyone who has information about this incident."

Retail Therapy at its best.

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Park Mall
Christmas shopping guide
inside for more details!

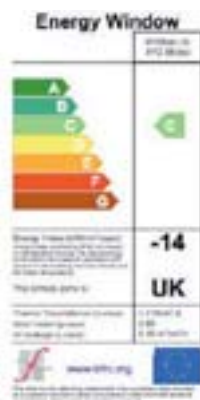
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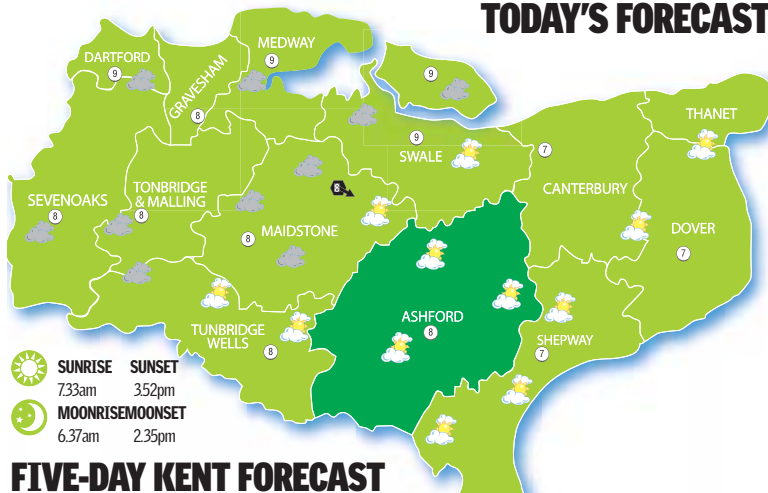
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TODAY'S FORECAST



WEEKEND HIGH TIDES

Chatham	Saturday	12:19pm	5.7m
	Sunday	12:56pm	5.8m
Dover	Saturday	10:36am	6.4m
	Sunday	11:14am	6.4m
Dungeness	Saturday	10:32am	7.4m
	Sunday	11:09am	7.4m
Ramsgate	Saturday	11:06am	4.8m
	Sunday	11:44am	4.8m
Sheerness	Saturday	12:09pm	5.5m
	Sunday	12:46pm	5.5m
Whitstable	Saturday	12:20pm	5.1m
	Sunday	12:58pm	5.0m



AROUND THE WORLD YESTERDAY

Amsterdam	3°C	Madrid	12°C
Athens	13°C	New York	1°C
Barcelona	15°C	Paris	6°C
Beijing	9°C	Rome	14°C
Bombay	33°C	Sydney	18°C
Cape Town	23°C	Tenerife	21°C
Cardiff	7°C	Tokyo	11°C
Gibraltar	16°C	Vancouver	8°C
Hong Kong	24°C	Warsaw	0°C
Las Palmas	20°C	Wellington	24°C

SUNRISE 7:33am
SUNSET 3:52pm
MOONRISE 6:37am
MOONSET 2:35pm

FIVE-DAY KENT FORECAST

	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon		Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
Ashford	7°C	7°C	11°C	8°C	8°C	Gravesend	8°C	9°C	11°C	9°C	8°C
Canterbury	7°C	7°C	10°C	7°C	7°C	Maidstone	7°C	8°C	11°C	9°C	8°C
Chatham	7°C	8°C	11°C	10°C	9°C	Ramsgate	7°C	7°C	10°C	7°C	7°C
Dartford	8°C	9°C	11°C	9°C	8°C	Rochester	7°C	8°C	11°C	10°C	9°C
Dover	7°C	6°C	10°C	7°C	7°C	Sevenoaks	6°C	7°C	9°C	7°C	7°C
Faversham	7°C	8°C	11°C	10°C	9°C	Sittingbourne	7°C	8°C	11°C	10°C	9°C
Folkestone	7°C	6°C	10°C	7°C	7°C	Tonbridge	7°C	7°C	10°C	8°C	8°C
Gillingham	7°C	8°C	11°C	10°C	9°C	Tun Wells	7°C	7°C	10°C	8°C	8°C

yourashford NEWS IN BRIEF

Eurostar's 'double doorway' success

EUROSTAR has confirmed the number of passengers using Disneyland Paris trains from Ashford has increased by eight per cent. And it has underlined its commitment to the town as it prepares to relaunch a service to Brussels. The announcement comes as the company celebrates the first anniversary of what it calls the 'double doorway' of Ashford and Ebbsfleet stations giving easier access to the continent.



RIGHT TRACK: Figures to Disney rise

The company is trumpeting the success of the newer international station at Ebbsfleet, in north Kent, saying public awareness of the station has risen sharply. It says 90 per cent of its passengers originate from the South East. Eurostar's Simon Montague said: "We've faced a tough challenge to put Ebbsfleet International on the map and we're really pleased the station is becoming well known."

"In many ways it is the same challenge Eurostar had when Ashford International opened in 1996. We are committed to both our Kent stations and significant growth on the London to Brussels route has also enabled us to plan the reintroduction of a direct Ashford-Brussels service next year."

The company says its marketing campaign has raised awareness of both Kent stations across the South East.

The reintroduction of the direct Brussels service from Ashford was due to take place next month but has been delayed because of the Channel Tunnel fire earlier this year.

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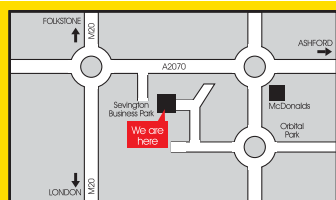
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yourlocalinterview

QUESTION & ANSWER

MOIRA HYDE



Q What is the history of the group?

A The WEA began in 1903, at a time when there was no educational provision for working class adults. Democratic choice was established, whereby students have a say in the courses offered, that choice is continued through the branch programme to this day.

Q How did you first get involved with the organisation?

A I began as tutor on a women and health course in Deal and I developed a community and health action programme in Dover.

Q What sorts of courses are run by the WEA and how are they organised?

A The branch programme is organised by student volunteers who hold meetings in their localities to review the programme and decide what they want to offer in the future. It is then my role to provide professional tutors, and to oversee and support the programmes.

The community programme in Kent includes health, wellbeing and parenting courses, some of which are accredited through the Open College Network. Alongside this programme we offer IT, numeracy, and literacy courses. We also offer courses to adults with learning difficulties. All of these courses are designed and adapted to meet the needs of particular groups. In addition, we have a workplace programme, offered in partnership with Unison, offering courses that meet the needs of specific groups of workers.

Q What do you think adult courses offer to people?

A Our branch programme offers people the chance to learn what they want to learn, in venues selected by their branch volunteers, with tutors who are experts in their particular fields. Many of our students have been with us for decades and are proud of the WEA tradition of lifelong learning.

Our community programme aims to reach people who may have had a negative experience of school or live in disadvantaged areas. The first stage is normally confidence-building, helping people identify and express their own needs and where they want to go. We then point our students towards progression routes, with the WEA or other learning providers.

We have many examples of courses changing people's lives. Every student completes an evaluation form so we are able to gauge how well they have learnt and how they have responded to the course.

Q How do people go about finding what courses are in their area?

A The Southern Regional office is in Rochester and there is a telephone number for all enquiries: 0800 3281060. People can also look at our website: wea.org.uk/southern or they can email us at southern@wea.org.uk.

Q What is the government's commitment to lifelong learning?

A The WEA is recognised and supported by central and local government. At present,

the government is prioritising vocational courses, numeracy, literacy and skills for life courses. All at the WEA would like there to be more recognition of the social value of lifelong learning courses, which make up the majority of our branch programme and provide a life-line to many students.

Q Is modern technology a help or hindrance to what you do? Do people really need to go on courses in this day and age of the internet?

A Courses provide an opportunity for our students to meet like-minded people and share ideas. The internet provides a wealth of information but I don't think it comes close to the experience of researching your subject by doing the foot-work and sharing it with a group of students, who are there because they want to be there. I am very worried about the isolation that is spreading among communities, much of which can be attributed to over-reliance on technology. On balance, I would say modern technology is a great help but it can never replace the energy and social-interaction of a classroom.

Q Do you have any heroes that have inspired you in life?

A I was inspired by the community arts movement in the 1980s, and some of the tutors who taught me that, however skilled or knowledgeable we are, creativity is central to personal and social development. Unfortunately this is hard to measure by ticking boxes and so it falls off the agenda all too often.

The tutor organiser for the Kent branch of adult education specialists the Workers' Educational Association (WEA), which provides courses on a range of subjects across the county, talks to **Ed Hill**

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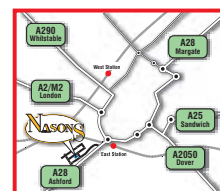
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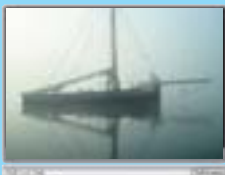




A must-see, the Red Wheelies display team marks the opening of the new Shopmobility service. Search 'Red'



A real treat for movie buffs, Folkestone Film Factory explains its work. Search 'Factory'



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Sir David Frost joins students for the degree ceremony in Rochester Cathedral. Search 'Frost'



X Factor star Ashley McKenzie goes back to school to perform his new single. Search 'Ashley'

EDITOR'S CHOICE

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New limits on booze cruisers hits Kent

BUSINESSES and ports in Kent will be hardest hit by a vote in the European Parliament that threatens to end booze cruise trade, the leader of the UK Independence Party has warned.

Nigel Farage, a MEP for the South East, criticised the new guidelines, which would cut the amount of cigarettes and alcohol Brits can bring back from the Continent, blaming the move on "appalling puritans".

Under the rules the tobacco allowance will be slashed by nearly 90 per cent and booze limits by half. It is tough enough with the fall of the pound against the euro," said Mr Farage.

"A booze cruise to Calais or Boulogne is a good fun day out and very good for Kent, good for Kent business and good for the ports.

"If you take away the cheap fags and booze,

BY JENNA PUDELEK

people will not go in big numbers and who does that benefit?

"It is just these appalling puritans wanting to control every aspect of our lives and people will go on smoking and drinking of course."

But those in favour of the guidelines on cross-Channel shopping said it would put a stop to cheap alcohol and cigarettes being resold.

In a knife-edge vote last week, 328 MEPs were in favour and 319 were against the strict new guidelines for "personal consumption".

Three out of 10 South East Euro-MPs, who represent Kent, voted in favour of the legislation, which could come into force in two years' time - Caroline Lucas, leader of the Green Party, Lib Dem Sharon Bowles and Labour's Peter Skinner.

MEPs backed new guidelines of 400 ciga-

rettes, 200 cigarillos and 100 cigars, compared with UK Customs limits for returning travellers of 3,200 cigarettes, 400 cigarillos and 200 cigars.

With drink, the European parliament defined personal consumption as five litres of spirits, 45 litres of wine and 55 litres of beer, as opposed to UK Customs guidelines for personal consumption as ten litres of spirits, 90 litres of wine and 110 litres of beer.

Mr Farage said he planned to fight the cuts.

"I think there is going to be intensive lobbying against it now. Kent will be hardest-hit because there is nowhere else you can feasibly go for a day trip to France from."

However, a spokeswoman for ferry operators P&O said it did not think the new rules would affect its trade. "There will still be no legal limit on the amount of goods you can bring back. They are levels, not limits. They are a guide for customs officers to work by."

Gap year travel plans could earn £1,000 bonus

A PROJECT entitled gapyearlotto could be about to bring a new angle to researching student travel.

Aimed at 17- to 26-year-olds, gapyearlotto.com claims to offer a new way to explore the world.

People who register have every click they make on the website's links recorded.

Each click then acts as a raffle ticket in a £1,000 monthly giveaway.

The project is the work of gap year student Charlie Walker. Fed up with using the internet at random, he decided to design his own programme which focused on showing off what different countries had to offer.

A spokesman said: "So gapyearlotto.com was born. Despite the name, a gap year is not required to users."

"They just have to be in the student age group and interested in travel. The cash on offer can be used to fund the travel that someone has researched."

The project is in its final stages of completion, and aims to launch on January 1.

Users can sign up for free at www.gapyearlotto.com.

Renowned author to address CPRE

THE Kent branch of the Campaign to Protect Rural England is to hold its annual meeting on Friday.

The group is due to select a new chairman, with Richard Knox-Johnson likely to take the post.

Currently vice-chairman, he is a business consultant specialising in the financial sector and a former soldier.

New nominations for vice-president include Ashford MP Damian Green, county tourist alliance chief and recent

High Sheriff Amanda Cottrell and Sittingbourne and Sheppey MP Derek Wyatt.

The meeting, at Lenham Community Centre, starts at 2pm and the charity says any residents who want to see the new officers elected are welcome to attend.

After the meeting, naturalist, author and TV presenter Richard Mabey will give a lecture entitled A Parable from the Backwoods.

BACKWOODS: Naturalist and author Richard Mabey will give a lecture at CPRE Kent's annual meeting at Lenham on Friday



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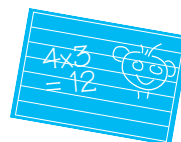


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BREAK TIME



ON YOUR BIKE: A taster session at North School

Cycling club offers weekly sessions

THE North School held a taster session to encourage pupils to join a cycling club.

The new Ashford Young Persons' Cycling Club began this month. Sessions take place every Monday at 6.30pm.

Bike It officer David Robert said: "This new project initiated by British Cycling will act as a great way for children to get involved in cycling in a safe and fun environment."

"It could lead to taking part in events and, who knows, the next Jamie Staff could well come from our club."

The Ashford Young Persons' Cycling club is run by volunteers and supported by British Cycling, Sustrans and Mid Kent and Ashford Sport Partnership.

To find out more, call Mr Robert on 01233 330829 or email david.robert@sustrans.org.uk.

School-run appeal

STAFF at Sellindge Primary School are urging parents to pick up and drop off their children as promptly as possible.

The school, which is next to the busy A20, is having major changes carried out to its entrance.

The problems for parents picking up children are made worse when Operation Stack is in place and motorway traffic is directed on to the A road.

Party time on path to independence

BY ED HILL

CHILDREN with disabilities at Wyvern School in South Ashford enjoyed a party as part of National Move Week.

The celebrations were held in recognition of the children's achievements on the Move mobility programme and the difference it has made to their lives and those of their families.

Move is a charity that helps the UK's most severely physically disabled children and young people develop mobility skills and take their first steps to independence.

It transforms the lives of disabled children by teaching them to sit, stand and walk as independently as possible with support from their care teams.

More than 70 per cent of children on the programme increase their mobility within the first 12 months on the scheme, which can have huge benefits for their social development, education and health.

Increased mobility enables children to interact with the world around them and, more importantly, other children.

Cath Marshall is headteacher at Wyvern School and runner-up in this year's ITV Teacher of the Year Awards. She celebrated Move Week with her students.

She said: "For children on the programme, improved mobility can mean the chance to play with friends, explore their environment



ON THE MOVE: Wyvern School youngsters enjoyed a party to celebrate their achievements

or the chance to sit at the table and eat dinner with their family. Small movements make a big difference.

"This is a great opportunity to celebrate all the successes and achievements of all the children on the programme during the last year and to thank the whole team who have worked together to help make it happen."

Children held a special assembly where they watched a video screen showing some of their achievements. They were also treated to a

cake baked for the occasion. Two children received medals for the progress they had made using their Rifton Pacer walking frames.

Tierney West, three, and Lincoln Chapuridema, four, have made great progress since they joined Wyvern.

Tierney's mother, Colleen, said: "She has done so much better. The interaction with other children really helps her. I think she makes much more progress here than she would if she was alone at home."

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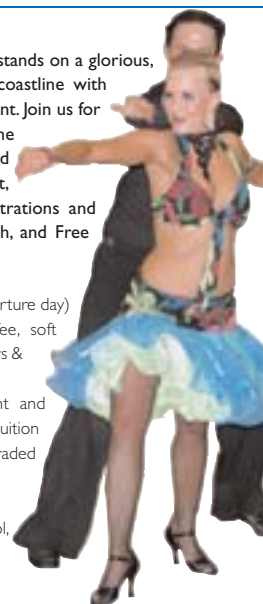
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Campaign signs up to save lives

■ BY NICK AMES

SPEED camera sites are set to have posters fixed to them spelling out just why they are there to slow down motorists.

Amid continued claims that speed cameras are installed purely to boost revenue streams, the Kent & Medway Safety Camera Partnership has launched a scheme whereby posters show the number of casualties in the three years before each camera was set up.

The latest stage of the Speed Shatters Life campaign was launched this week with head injuries charity Headway.

It is hoped that the green posters will highlight just why the cameras are necessary.

The partnership says each safety camera acts as a memorial for those who have been killed or seriously injured on the county's roads and it hopes the current poster campaign will make motorists slow down and think about their driving, not only at camera sites but on all roads in the county.



Katherine Barrett, communications officer for the partnership, said: "Speed Shatters Life aims to remind road-users that cameras have been installed to prevent death and serious injury on roads in Kent and Medway and are not there to make money."

"Since the partnership launched in July 2002, there has been an average 58 per cent reduction in those killed or

seriously injured at all our camera sites.

"We hope that on seeing the posters motorists will slow down and stick within the legal speed limit for everyone's safety."

Linda Kerley, Headway East Kent chief executive, said: "Road traffic crashes cause up to 50 per cent of all brain injuries and Headway are therefore more than happy to work with the partnership to help reduce these numbers."

"A brain injury is a hidden disability which affects not only the survivor of a crash but also their family and friends."

The Headway East Kent charity covers Canterbury, Thanet, Ashford, Dover and Folkestone and offers support and care for those who have sustained a severe head injury, together with their families or carers.

The charity is affiliated to Headway – the brain injury association which is the only UK charity dedicated to the care and reintegration of the head-injured into the community.

For further information, log on to www.headway.org.uk.

Meanwhile, every camera location and its crash figures for before and after camera installation can be viewed at www.kmscp.org.



Youngsters learn to junk fast food

THE majority of youngsters in the South East are unaware of the effects that eating junk food can have, according to a British Heart Foundation (BHF) survey published on Monday.

It revealed almost eight out of ten children (78 per cent) were unaware a shortened life was the worst consequence of eating badly. Almost half (46 per cent) of all eight- to 15-year-olds thought the most dangerous side-effects of junk food were making them put on weight, causing their teeth to rot, giving them spots, or making them unpopular.

The charity released the new survey results as it launched its latest Food4-Thought initiative and its new online game, the Yoobot, to help children to make informed food choices.

Latest predictions show two-thirds of children will be over-

weight or obese by 2050 and today's youngsters may be the first generation to live shorter lives than their parents.

Almost a third (31 per cent) of 10- and 11-year-olds are overweight or obese.

The Yoobot is an online game (yoobot.co.uk) which allows children to play with their future, helping them understand the long-term effects of a poor diet.

BHF director of prevention and care, Mike Knapp, said: "Today's junk food generation are missing the fact that eating unhealthily can have dire consequences on long-term health."

"The Yoobot is an innovative way for children to explore the effects of eating a diet of junk food. It is now more important than ever for children to be educated enough to take control of their diets."



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yourashfordblogger

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Government's verdict could be last orders for our pubs

THE last few years have not been kind to pub landlords and pub-goers will find it hard to disagree with Shepherd Neame supremo Jonathan Neame's rant in The Times newspaper this week.

The local brewery boss went as far as accusing the government of "gross cultural vandalism" following years of increased alcohol taxation, leading to locals closing at an alarming rate.

While Mr Neame, whose company operates 375 pubs in the south east, has something of a vested interest, the basic argument is hard to fault. It's hard to see how raising the tax on alcohol is going to help matters when the only people it seems to be penalising are landlords and those who prefer the pub to the park bench.

Because supermarkets can afford to sell at a loss it is still possible to buy a three-litre bottle of cider for three quid – cheaper than a pint in many Kent pubs these days.

Now, there is no way that situation can pos-

sibly lead to less binge drinking. In fact, high pub prices may well have the opposite effect.

For a long time now the high bar tariffs have encouraged people to get tanked up before they even set foot out the front door.

At least when drinking pints in a pub you stand a fighting chance of keeping track of what you've had and spreading your drinking over the course of a night. Whereas we all know measures tend to be more generous at home, and hurried rounds of shots, downed before jumping into a taxi, is hardly a healthy thing to encourage.

But this is exactly what is happening.

No one is arguing that irresponsible drinking in town centres does not cause problems. It does, but taxation is not the way to deal with it.

It's possible to see a case for banning drinks promotions and happy hours, but just increasing the price is a simplistic response that is bound to fail, and could even exacerbate the problems.

People want to drink because it can be fun, sociable and at best the friendly local can become a focus for communities both.

I live in a village which is lucky enough to

have a thriving pub, frequented by characters from all walks of life who come together for a chat over a couple of pints.

It plays a key role in the community and its role, should it be lost due to yet another government enforced price hike, could send us all scurrying back to our homes never to meet, greet and socialise with one another again. Which, given this is the sort of community every government wants to be seen to be encouraging, would be a mighty blow were it to be lost.

As Mr Neame says: "Most people in the country want to have a strong, vibrant pub near them, characterised by great beer, good food and wine and, crucially, good ambience and fellowship. Such pubs exist, but they are struggling against a government that has come to regard pubs as a tax-collection point on one hand and a social problem on the other."

I'll raise a glass to protecting them.

• **EDITOR'S NOTE:** All bloggers are supplied with full name and address of the authors. They do not reflect the view of the newspaper but are designed to give our readers the chance to air their views.

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WIN Three great family prizes

GET your skates on this Christmas and head for Ashford town centre, where Invicta FM's Ice World, Debenhams and Pizza Express have teamed up with Yourashford to offer our readers three great family prizes.

If you're looking to entertain the family, grab a bargain for Christmas or just enjoy a little festive fun, Ashford town centre won't disappoint – and we'd like to show you why.

The Ashford Winter Festival on the November 28 and 29 will see the town centre come alive with a continental, local food, and arts and crafts market as well as street entertainment and food demonstrations.

The Invicta FM outdoor ice rink will bring added sparkle to the town and fun for all the family, and shoppers can enjoy great shops including Debenhams, H&M and TopShop.

You could win three great prizes for you and your family to include: A free one-hour session on the Invicta FM ice rink in the grounds of Charter House, a tasty Italian meal for four at Pizza Express, and all topped off with

a trip to Debenhams where you'll have £40 to spend in-store as you please. It'll be a great day out for all to get into the festive spirit.

For more information about the Ashford Winter Festival, visit www.ashfordwinterfestival.co.uk.

To be in with a chance of winning, simply answer this question:

Where is the Invicta FM outdoor ice rink in Ashford?

Send your entry on a postcard along with your email address (if applicable), name, address and daytime telephone number to: Ashford Winter Festival competition, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR.

The closing date is December 3, 2008. No purchase necessary.

For our full Terms and Conditions, visit www.kentnews.co.uk. For a posted copy, call 01303 817073.

If you do not wish to receive any literature, please write 'no literature' on your entry.

Prize includes one family ticket (two adults and two children) for a one-hour session on Ice World; a two-course meal for two adults and two children, plus a drink each, at Pizza Express; and £40 to spend in store at Debenhams in County Square.

Ashford Winter Festival



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EMAIL: Email us your letters to us at yourashford@kosmedia.co.uk

TALK TIME

LUCY BROWN

As it braces itself for a rush in the New Year, Lucy Brown, 19, membership consultant of the Fitness First health club in Ashford discuss her views on the town.



How did you get the job?

I started working here when I came in to cancel my membership because I had just lost my job. I came in and they said why don't you have a job here? So I was lucky, I really like the people so I knew that it would be a great place to work. I was really pleased.

How did you get into fitness?

It was because of my mum. I used to go out walking the dog with her and it turned out she was fitter than me. She would be striding around and I would be out of breath. I thought 'I must do something about this'.

What do you think of Ashford?

I was born in Ashford and grew up in in Throwley Forstal, near Faversham. The team go out every month around the town. The staff here have just done a saucy calendar in aid of the British Heart Foundation. I now live in Canterbury.

What's good about the job?

I enjoy meeting the members and there is a good social side. It keeps you on your toes. It is always busy and upbeat working here.

I think that the gym can really help people relieve the stress of work. We have members who come back from working in London and like to take it out on a punch bag. I think it's just as much a mental workout as for the body. We have all sorts of different membership packages to suit everyone.

I come from Canterbury on the train and get the bus every morning which can be a pain. I am learning to drive at the moment but I am really nervous and it is taking me a long time. I don't feel I'm ready to take the test yet.

YOUR LETTERS



Our ice rink was just a damp squib

How very typical of Ashford. We make a big song and dance about the ice rink then when it comes to it it is nothing more than a giant damp squib.

Wouldn't it be nice if, just for once, this sort of thing went ahead without any hitches and was nothing other than a great success?

H Young
Kennington

Bad sign bodes ill for rink reputation

I read with interest your comment on the front page about the signage to the Ice World rink and could not agree more with those who suggested it wasn't up to much.

If half the idea is attracting people into the town centre from outside of the town, just how exactly do we intend to achieve a decent reputation if we put so



COMMENT ONLINE TOO

Not only can you use email and letters to respond to our stories, don't forget you can comment via our website too.

Beneath most stories on the www.yourashford.co.uk website there is the facility to leave your comments on whatever YOU thought of the online article.

To leave your remarks, simply click on the 'Add your comments' link and tell us what you think. And remember, www.yourashford.co.uk is updated daily, bringing you the latest, breaking news from across Ashford and Tenterden as well as our villages.

We will include the best on these pages too - ensuring your comments reach the widest possible audience.

In addition, if you find your newsagent, supermarket or petrol station runs out of Yourashford before you've picked up your copy, you never need to miss out.

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little effort into the presentation?

This could still be a great thing, but surely we could have forked out a few hundred quid to get a decent big, illuminated sign? The

yellow bit of paper Sellotaped on the Charter House Goods Entrance sign just looks appalling.

Ted Cuthrie
By email

Put your sneering attitude on ice

Come on Ashford - let's get behind this ice rink and not start mocking it before it is even open!

It will no doubt still be a big success and draw lots into the town centre - so let's hold back our judgement and our sneers before we slate it - despite the troubles it has experienced so far.

Gary Smith
By email

The hedge vandals should be ashamed

Just what goes through the minds of those responsible for cutting off the head of the hedge shaped like a giraffe, that you reported on last week?

I really despair in this day and age.

This was something I used to see everyday, and everyday it would make me smile. A true delight.

I hope whoever is responsible now feels suitably ashamed.

Hannah Jones
By email

Dartford crossing tolls are just unfair

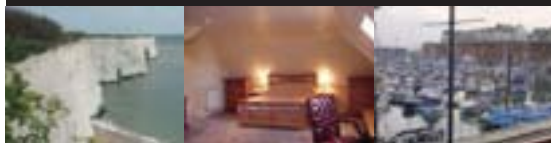
Last week you carried a story about the Dartford crossing and the tolls. As a frequent visitor to Essex for my job I have to say I don't think there should be any charges at all.

This is a public highway, and why should we have to pay for using it?

If tolls were in place on other major roads maybe this would be acceptable - but they are not.

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be penalised because of the route I need to take?

John Buchanan
By email

Round of applause for clean-hands campaign

I applaud the campaign which your newspaper is running about the importance of washing hands to combat the spread of disease.

It is an obvious thing to some people but to others it really does need to be stated.

But maybe it should be carried to other parts of the country – apparently according to a recent survey northerners have the dirtiest hands in the UK.

Nigel Thompson
By email

Two wheels bad if you are a pedestrian

Regarding the ongoing debate about car taxes – why is there not a cycle tax for riders who use the footpath?

They are a far bigger danger than cars and seem to carry on without a thought for anyone who is using the path legitimately.

Cyclists always go on about how environmentally friendly they are – well walker friendly they are most definitely not.

Paul Hawthorne
By email

Tories have to answer for vanity of web TV

As someone who spends his working life in newspapers, I am saddened to see the tough times being suffered by the local newspaper industry in this country.

However, are your readers aware of the threats to the local press caused not by the advertising recession but by publicly funded bodies?

I refer to the BBC and our very own Kent County Council.

The BBC wants to increase its local

Last week Conservative leader David Cameron assured the Newspaper Society that a Conservative government would not allow the BBC to destroy the local press using money everyone is forced to pay through the licence fee.

So, why are his Conservative chums at County Hall carrying on with their own money-wasting project when their own leader can clearly see that a local free press, without political bias is vital to this country?

I believe the county council has a lot of explaining to do.

T Smith
By email

Noise annoys, and EU should be taking action

Noise is one of the most consistently neglected public health issues. For Kent and Medway, traffic growth and aviation expansion both depend upon the public tolerating even more noise than they do already, despite the health effects.

The European Parliament's Industry Committee has rejected very modest noise policies which would have removed the noisiest tyres from use no later than 2018.

Since half of the EU's population is exposed to noise levels likely to damage their health, according to World Health Organisation standards, this is not a minor issue.

On December 2, 2008, the Internal Market Committee of the European Parliament will vote on this issue. Kent Green Party urges the public to write to their Members of the European Parliament immediately, to prevent further weakening of noise policies.

Go to www.writetothem.com to find your MEPs.

Steve Dawe
Kent Green Party



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FREE PRESS: David Cameron backs the local media

news coverage on the web in direct competition to local news organisations who have been involved with their communities for years and always seek to give readers a voice. The corporation has been panned in recent years for incidents of 'politically correct, left-wing bias'.

And here in Kent our own county council has spent more than £1 million of council taxpayers' money on is making its own – unsuccessful so far – web TV.

Now the Tory-controlled council looks set to spend another £400,000 of our cash on the vanity project as well.

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GOOD FRIENDS: Some of the cast of Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, below Emma Barton is a real honey as the pantomime's leading lady

Take a bite
out of panto

Marlowe's final Christmas is sure to be a laugh

HEIGH ho, heigh ho, it's off to work we go as the Marlowe's Christmas pantomime gets under way.

The spectacular show will be packed with family fun and an all-star cast as they bring the story of Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs to life. With lots of laughs, great singing and dancing, stunning costumes, magical scenery and some fun audience participation, there should be plenty to keep people of all ages entertained.

The beautiful Snow White is played by Emma Barton, who played Honey Mitchell in Eastenders. Children's TV favourite Stephen Mulhern is back by popular demand as the cheeky Court Jester, while local legend Dave Lee will be picking up the ghost gag bench as Nurse Nellie.

Ben Roddy, whose stage credits include Deep Blue Sea, Pride and Prejudice and An Evening With Gary Linekar, will play Herman the Henchman. American actress Valerie Cutko will be bringing the Wicked Queen to life, while Kent's own Phil Holden will be appearing as one of the dwarfs. The dashing Prince Lorenzo is played by Richard Hurst, who has a variety of stage, TV and music credits to his name.

SNOW WHITE AND
THE SEVEN DWARFS

Saturday November 29, to Sunday, January 18,
Marlowe Theatre, Canterbury

Produced by the same team that brought Aladdin to the Marlowe last year, Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs tells a classic story about betrayal, peril, friendship and love.

Snow White was already a popular fairytale in many European countries when the Brothers Grimm made the German version famous. In 1937 Disney made what many consider to be the definitive version of

the tale, giving the dwarfs individual names for the first time and creating what remains a favourite film with contemporary audiences more than 70 years later.

When a kindly Queen hopes to have a beautiful daughter, her wish is granted and the child is named Snow White. But her mother dies and the King then marries a vain and spiteful woman. Every day the Wicked Queen asks her enchanted mirror 'who is the fairest of them all?' and receives a satisfactory answer.

But one day the mirror tells her Snow White is now the fairest in all the land and, in a jealous fury, the Wicked Queen orders that her step-daughter be killed. Unable to carry out the deed, a henchman releases Snow White into the forest where she finds friendship with an unlikely band of characters – Doc, Happy, Sneezy, Grumpy, Bashful, Sleepy and Dopey.

When the Wicked Queen discovers the deception, she sets out to kill Snow White herself. What will become of our heroine?

This will be the last Marlowe pantomime before the theatre closes for redevelopment next year, so don't miss this chance to enjoy the fun.

Tickets are priced from £9 to £21.50. To book call 01227 787787 or visit www.marlowetheatre.com.

FOR MORE THEATRE AND ENTERTAINMENT VISIT @ yourkenttv.co.uk

with
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Email jane.connolly@kosmedia.co.uk



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THE HOLLOWAYS

Friday November 28
Leas Cliff Hall, Folkestone

TRIUMPHING over adversity, The Holloways are back with more hit songs to fill indie dancefloors.

The band from north London had a great year in 2007, scoring hits with Generator and Two Left Feet, and earned a good deal of attention with their debut album, So This Is Great Britain? Fans flocked to see the upcoming stars perform at festivals such as Get Loaded in the Park and Glastonbury and, with a strong start behind them, the band headed to the famous Sawmills Studios to record their second album. But suddenly their meteoric careers came crashing back down to earth when their record company collapsed.

Not to be deterred, The Holloways pushed ahead, found a new label and now present a new EP, Sinners and Winners. The much-anticipated second album, Tales From The Tarmac, is due to follow early next year.

They will be supported by rising Kent band Underground Heroes, who have shared stages with the likes of The View, Kasabian, The Cribs and Kate Nash. Seven Story



Down, leading lights on the Kent indie scene, will be opening the show.

Tickets cost £14.50. To book call 0844 8471776.

ASHFORD LEISURE

Exhibition is an original display of local works

ORIGINAL paintings by 67 Kent artists goes on display in Tenterden Town Hall next week.

The Weald of Kent Art Group Winter Exhibition opens on Monday and runs until Sunday, December 7. Paintings will be for sale, priced from £20 unframed and £35 framed.

The exhibition opens from 10am-5pm, Monday to Saturday, and 10am-4pm on Sunday, though opening hours will be extended on the Friday as part of the town's late afternoon shopping event. Catalogues cost 50p on the door. For more information call 01233 850508.

Enjoy a shot of great music at hotel blues gig

BLUES and rock fans can enjoy an evening of great live music in Ashford.

Cold Shots is a three-piece band from the Canterbury and Ashford area, which plays a variety of cover versions of rock and blues hits.

Cold Shots will be at the George Hotel in High Street from 9pm on Friday. For more information about the venue call the pub on 01233 625512.

Find your Equilibrium when band play at pub

ROCK covers band Equilibrium will be playing live at a pub in Willesborough this weekend.

The five-piece formed in 2005 with the intention of playing great music all over Kent. Read their set list and hear some of their tracks at www.equilibrium-the-band.com.

Catch them at The Albion in Albion Place on Saturday. For more details about the venue call 01233 622795.

Rock 'n' roll through the night to 50s tunes

STEP back in time and relive the glory days of rock 'n' roll with Ricky Fontayne.

Sounding just like a classic singer from the 50s, Fontayne performs some of the greatest hits from the era. To find out more and hear his music see www.myspace.com/Chevy57RocknRoll.

He will be performing at the Flying Horse Inn in Boughton Corner, Boughton Aluph, on Saturday. For more details about the venue call the pub on 01233 620914.

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COBTREE CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

Saturday and Sunday,
November 29-30,
Museum of Kent Life, Sandling

START the festive season in style at the Museum of Kent Life's first ever Cobtree Christmas Festival.

This weekend visitors will be able to enjoy the festival for free as the museum throws open its gates, though small charges will apply for car parking and certain activities.

Meet Father Christmas on his magical tractor sleigh and enjoy a ride around the museum's grounds, along with a tasty yuletide treat from Santa. There will be lots more entertainment on offer including traditional children's fairground rides, face painting and a festive wreath making workshop in



the Oasthouse. The workshops will take place at 11am and 1pm both days.

Adults will be able to enjoy some warm mead, mulled wine and roasted chestnuts. With more than 60 stalls selling a range of arts and crafts, there will also be opportunities to buy unusual

gifts and accessories.

Along with the museum's resident attractions, including the adoptable farmyard family, there should be plenty to keep everyone amused. For more information call 01622 621242 or visit www.museum-kentlife.co.uk.



THE NOISE NEXT DOOR

Wednesday December 3
Orange Street Music Venue, Canterbury

COMEDY can be found in the most unexpected places when The Noise Next Door perform.

The group of five performers turns audience suggestions into hilarious scenarios, characters and dialogue at a moment's notice, using their energy and talent to create one-off shows that will have audiences in stitches.

The gang has been performing together for more than three years but the company was

only founded in March this year. Since then the Brighton-based troupe has sold out shows at the Brighton and Edinburgh Fringe Festivals, supported top comics such as Harry Hill and Ed Byrne and become the first international group to attend FRACAS, an improvisation conference in Los Angeles.

The Noise Next Door will be performing at Orange Street on a monthly basis, giving Canterbury audiences the chance to enjoy their energetic shows and razor-sharp wit. Having won praise from high profile comedians such as Ed Byrne and Lucy Porter, the group is surely on its way up.

The show starts at 8pm, tickets are £8/£6. See www.orangestreetmusic.com for details.

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yourlocal eating out guide

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the Kent local search directory - Telephone: 01303 817110

Family entertain you together

■ The George, Molash

A FRIENDLY pub offering a warm welcome to villagers and passers by is what has made The George, Molash, a top rated village inn.

Staff at the family run pub have been together for six years and have got to know exactly what makes the right combination for a winning formula.

Christmas bookings are now being taken with a set meal of three courses costing £19.95. The advice is to book early to avoid disappointment as demand is sure to be high.

Current best selling dishes are steak and kidney pudding and a range of pies

all made on the premises and packed full of meat. The pies are made from short crust pastry which ensures they are full of flavour.

Everyone who comes through the doors is greeted by the staff, including owners Karen and John Marshall who like to ensure guests are properly made to feel at home from the moment they walk in the door.

There is a varied menu and prices are kept as competitive as possible.

Chef Charlotte – daughter of the owners – was trained at Westminster College and prides herself on the variety she can put onto the menu with fresh local meat and fish and vegetables grown in the pub's own garden.



A prime venue with a quality atmosphere

■ The George Hotel, Lydd

THE George Hotel is situated on the High Street in Lydd and is a family run business that consists of two bars, nine bedrooms full of character, a weather decked garden for dining outdoors and a log fire restaurant.

The menu ranges from vegetarian dishes, to low calorie foods and fish-based meals with the majority made up from local produce. Best sellers at the moment include a chicken, bacon and stilton wrap, roasted in the oven with a white wine, Dijon mustard and cream and stilton sauce.

The owners have been running



the pub for six years and food is served from noon to 9pm from Monday to Saturday and from noon to 8pm on Sundays. The bar is open until midnight on Saturdays. A buffet can be provided for up to 150 people at any one time, while the capacity for a sit down meal is 36.

There is a great ambience and atmosphere throughout the hotel, which maintains its reputation as one of the top places to eat, drink and stay on Romney Marsh.

Close to a number of tourist attractions and some of the finest natural countryside in the south of England the George Hotel is a prime venue for those looking for quality dining in a fine ambience at the right price.

CHEF RECOMMENDS

Elvey Farm

Start with smoked salmon and prawn terrine. Then venison and chestnut casserole with buttered pink fir apple potatoes or blue mash with a choice of fresh seasonal vegetables. End with apple and cobnut pudding. Telephone: 01233 840442

The Walnut Tree, Aldington

From the 125 ways to have sausage and mash menu, try Coopers' pork and cracked black pepper sausages with Cheddar mash and onion gravy, or beef and horseradish sausages with sage and onion mash and hot, spicy gravy. Telephone: 01233 720298

The Hop Pickers

Starter smoked haddock. Main fresh scallops grilled on the stone for a healthy and sweeter taste. This is served with side salad and choice of sauce. Finish the meal with homemade bread and butter pudding. Telephone: 01233 713333

The Rose and Crown

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yourashfordstyle

Yummy mummy

See how style guru Nicole gave Sunita a new look

YOUNG mum Sunita Ralh decided she needed to dump her T-shirt and jeans for a new glam look so we sent her along to Detail Style image studio to meet Nicole Pitt-Williams, a qualified fashion and image stylist.

Sunita was determined to find some alternatives that are simple to maintain as she juggles a hectic life as a full-time mum and beauty therapy student.

"But I still like to have fun with my girlfriends when I have the chance and I wanted Nicole to help me find the right look," she said.

First Nicole gave Sunita, 27, from Folkestone, a colour consultation to find the perfect hues to complement her skin tone, eye and hair colour.

She explained: "I then moved on to the style consultation, which looks at the body as a whole and works on proportions, camouflaging the parts we like to hide and highlighting the assets."

So it was off to New Look in Ashford, where they stock the fabulous Inspire range for sizes 18-26 and offer excellent value to fit Sunita's budget.

Sunita said: "I'm really happy with the result and now I'm looking forward to showing off my new looks. And



GIRL'S GOT STYLE: Casual (Jeans, price £12; top, price £10; faux fur gilet, price £10) or smart (Dress, price £25; shrug, price £12; bow shoes, price £20), Sunita has a new style for every occasion, and has been transformed from her previous self, left



thanks to the colour swatch and a shopping guide, I'm now really looking forward to shopping alone."

Nicole aims during her consultations to help people find out about styles that suit their body, colours that they perfectly and useful ways of saving money.

So, as well as looking slimmer, younger, more professional and feeling more confident, Detail Style aims help you to shop smart too.

Prices for Nicole's help start from £25. But readers can have a free no obligation 30-

minute consultation, by calling Nicole on 01303 245028 or email her on Nicole@detail-style.com.

And the first 15 readers to contact Nicole will receive a free 50 image Essential Style guide. Nicole will be running style workshops soon – the first will be held in Folkestone on Saturday, December 6.

• Sunita had her hair restyled by Rachel at DIVA Hair Design, Hythe, 01303 266364
Photographs were taken at The Grand, The Leas, Folkestone.



BHS
Satin corset dress, price £40

Party perfect

Budget high street frocks mean Cinderella can still go to the ball



FRENCH CONNECTION
Silk dress with frill edge, price £90



ACCESSORIZE
Scalloped vintage bag, price £25



BHS
Cedabra patent croc court shoes, price £55



NEXT
Peep-toe heels, price £25

DEBENHAMS
Pierce Fonda flamenco ruffle prom dress, price £150



Advertiser's Announcement

YOUR GUIDE TO CHRISTMAS SHOPPING AT PARK MALL



**WIN a romantic
dinner for two at
Eastwell Manor
with Park Mall**
SEE INSIDE FOR DETAILS





Park Mall has it all for Christmas

IT'S the most wonderful time of the year – and there's no better place to get in the mood than Park Mall Shopping Centre.

At the very heart of the town centre, just off the High Street, the complex will bring the magic of the festive season to life while providing the perfect place to enjoy snapping up a wide range of Christmas presents.

With the added bonus of a host of independent traders, as well as big High Street names, Park Mall combines a blend of the unusual and unique with the must-haves. Which means you can buy for all your family and friends in the friendliest and most welcoming shopping centre in town.

Boasting more than 20 stores to choose from you'll find all your favourite traders here, such as Accessorize, Dorothy Perkins, Barratts Shoes, Top Shop, Top Man, Millets and Adams Kids, as well as many more, selling all the latest fashions. There is so much to choose from you'll be spoilt for choice!

Maybe this cold winter weather means you're thinking of your next vacation. If so, why not come in and book that special holiday or trip of a lifetime at Thomas Cook? Or if you want to top up your tan in readiness for a Christmas party then it's time to pay a visit to Bronzone.

The mix of excellent independent traders and big name stores, offering many types of goods and services as well as health foods and much more besides, creates a host of gift opportunities.

If you want to give yourself a winter healthcheck then visit Doctor and Herbs, Health Matters, The Hearing Centre and Dollond & Aitchison. We are also home to a large Wilkinson store – perfect for stocking up on all those Christmas essentials.

So remember your Christmas shopping trip to Ashford cannot be complete without a visit to Park Mall Shopping Centre. Access and parking are simple with two car parks adjacent to the centre and public transport links nearby.

Late-night shopping is just the job

CHRISTMAS shopping can sometimes be an arduous task and finding the time amid seeing friends and family can be tough.

So this year why not take the stress out of the process at Park Mall?

With regular late-night opening hours every week between now and Christmas, you can avoid the worst of the crowds as the town welcomes shoppers to snap up bargains in the run-up to the big day.

Everyone knows Park Mall's mix of stores provides a recipe for success and with the relaxed courtyard feel, it makes shopping here a treat not a chore. The centre will be open late every Thursday, starting this week with participating stores opening their doors until 8pm.





WIN a romantic meal for two at Eastwell Manor with Park Mall

IT'S one of the most breathtaking buildings in the borough – and the most sought-after.

And for one lucky couple a romantic evening at Eastwell Manor in Boughton Lees will be theirs to enjoy and remember forever thanks to our special competition.

We have teamed up with the luxury venue to offer one lucky winner a meal for two. They will be served up a mouthwatering three-course meal at the plush Eastwell Manor where they can enjoy the sumptuous surroundings and top-quality service.

All you have to do to be in with a chance of winning this wonderful prize is answer the simple question below and circle the correct option.

Then fill out the form, pop it in an envelope, and deliver it to the big red post box by Santa's grotto or post it to us at: Christmas Competition, 19a Park Mall, Ashford, Kent TN24 8RY.

Question: What is the name of Father Christmas' famous red-nosed reindeer? a) Robin b) Rudolph c) Reggie

The closing date is December 24, 2008. Winners will be announced on January 5, 2009.

MEAL FOR TWO COMPETITION



Name.....

Address.....

..... Postcode

Daytime telephone number.....

Email.....

• Terms and conditions: Dinner is a three-course meal, alcohol to be purchased separately to the prize. Dinner is served Monday to Saturday, and the voucher for the meal will be collected from the Park Mall management suite.

Festival's tasty treats to found at the Mall

WHAT better way to warm up this year than by attending the Ashford Winter Festival this weekend?

And the tastiest treats can only be found in one place... Park Mall.

As the streets of the town become full of food, arts and crafts stalls, Park Mall will be home to chefs from some of the borough's finest eateries.

They will be cooking up delicious dishes throughout the two-day event which runs from Friday and Saturday, November 28-29 between 9am-5.30pm.

So why not visit the shopping centre and enjoy the sights, smells, sounds and tastes, of what should be one of the highlights of the year?



Park Mall is also supporting the temporary ice rink outside Charter House this year – so after a busy day shopping in the complex, why not unwind by strapping on your skates at Ice World? What more could you want this Christmas?

Santa ready for young shoppers in his grotto

SANTA will enchant young and old alike this Christmas as he takes a break from preparing his toys and sleigh to make regular visits to Park Mall.

The jolly old red-faced man arrives this weekend as he flies in to greet the crowds along with some live reindeer, to help shoppers celebrate the start of the countdown to the big day.

And the following weekend – December 6 – his grotto will be open for business as he welcomes children.

He'll be in his grotto every Saturday up until December 22 when he will be there every day up until Christmas Eve.

Then he takes off, as Park Mall shuts, for his busiest night of the year.



Adams Kids

It's not just adults who need to look their best this Christmas, so specialist children's retailer Adams Kids is making sure the youngsters can dress up too. The store, which caters for ages 0-10, is promising everything from fancy dress costumes to smart shirts and trousers.

MaRi Novelty's Craft Centre

This family-run store may have just the thing if you're looking for a more creative gift for loved ones this Christmas. The store is a goldmine of craft goodies, with its range covering card-making, scrapbooking, cross-stitch, beading and much, much more. What's more, MaRi Novelty's also runs craft course demonstrations on Saturdays and a thriving monthly craft club.

The Hearing Company

Give the gift of hearing this Christmas and make sure everyone can enjoy the sound of the festive season. The Hearing Company offers professional, confidential advice and in-store demonstrations of the latest high-tech hearing aids. With hearing loss happening gradually and many not realising they have a problem, The Hearing Company can ensure you share the laughter with your loved ones this Christmas.

Dolland & Aitchison

To complete your party outfit this season, why not purchase a new pair of glasses from the Dolland & Aitchison branch at Park Mall? It's the perfect way to make you shine even brighter this festive season – and turn heads.

Friendly staff will help you with the latest stylish look you need for that special event.

Bronzone

Want a healthy glow for the party season? Then tanning and beauty salon Bronzone is offering some great beauty gift ideas this Christmas. See in-store for all the latest special offers and discounts for tanning and beauty, perfect for Christmas.



WILKINSON

Large decorated bauble pack in gold and black (two per pack), £3



TOPMAN

Wine sheen skinny tux jacket, price £100



DOROTHY PERKINS

Red slubby scarf, £12



Great gift ideas from Park Mall



ADAMS KIDS

Striped party shirt from £9.99, stonewash jeans from £5.99, pumps from £9.99; Tank cardigan and shirt set from £14.99, skinny jeans from £9.99, Chelsea boots from £12.99; Shirt, waistcoat and tie set from £17.99, regular fit jeans from £13.99, chunky boots from £12.99, Trilby £5.99

DOROTHY PERKINS

Pink satin knot detail shoe, £30



DOROTHY PERKINS

Green ruffle hem dress, £45



WILKINSON

Mini peacock stocking decoration £2.50



DOROTHY PERKINS

Facet linked clear bead on ribbon necklace, £15



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THOMAS COOK Why not visit Santa on his home turf? Jet-off to Lapland with Thomas Cook.



WILKINSON
40 outdoor coloured multi-action lights, £10



WILKINSON
Black stemmed wine flutes (four per pack), £10



TOPMAN
Woven yellow check scarf £12



WILKINSON
Shopping trolley - accessories and shopping cart. Age three-plus, £10



DOROTHY PERKINS
Cream cami and mocha star print pyjamas, £20

Health Matters

Feeling your stress levels rising over Christmas? Then why not take a trip to visit the latest outlet of the county's leading specialist independent health food retailer at Park Mall. Health Matters promises to respond to customers' needs, whether it be through natural health advice or foods.

Office Angels

Looking for some work this Christmas? Then pop into secretarial and office recruitment consultancy Office Angels. With a varied client base of organisations it supplies high calibre permanent and short-to-long term assignment candidates across a range of roles.

Butterfly's

For the latest fashion with prices everybody can afford, Butterfly's caters for all sizes from 8 to 26, boasting ethnic look clothing and High Street-style at bargain prices. It also has a range of children's clothes as well, for ages 2-14 years and new stock arriving every week.

Learn Direct

While you're in Park Mall shopping for those perfect presents, why not give yourself a gift? Drop into Learn Direct and see what new skills you could gain for a more prosperous new year. For many the courses will be free or subsidised, and in the current climate boosting your CV may be the path to success.

Accessorize

Looking for those perfect accessories to match that outfit? Accessorize has everything you could wish for! Perfect for gifts, Accessorize has plenty to choose from with jewellery, handbags and shoes and plenty of cool things for kids too.

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Kall Kwik

For all your latest digital printing needs for business or pleasure, where better than the well-established Kall Kwik Design and Print? Offering a comprehensive service across all areas of print, the store has been in Ashford for nearly 20 years. It is based in New Street, at the end of the Park Mall shopping centre, next to the WWI tank

Orange Shop

Whether you're looking for the latest mobile phone or a state-of-the-art ultra-mobile netbook computers offering you fast access to the internet anywhere, then visit Orange for some of the best deals in town. It has a range of special offers to tempt you ranging from mobile broadband to the best inclusive minutes.

Millet's

We all love the great outdoors, but staying dry and warm during the winter is never easy. But Millet's will have the answer for you. The specialist outdoor equipment retailers has a huge range of waterproof coats to wellies. Also, if you're looking for a special gift for the outdoor enthusiast, then where better to look than Millet's?

Printing.com

Want your business to go into the new year fighting fit? Then why not pay a visit to Printing.com? Its team will guide you through our easy process and help you better promote yourself, giving you as much or as little help you need. They're all well versed in marketing, and aren't just there to sell you printing.

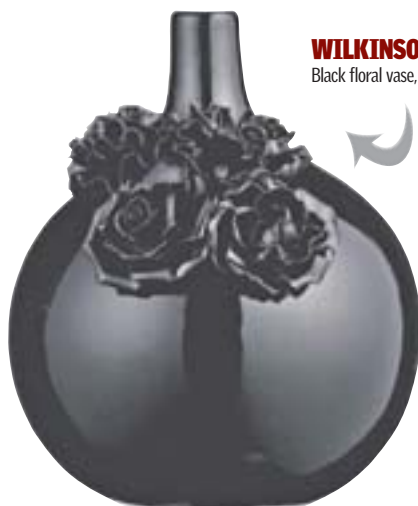
Ashford Gateway Centre

This Christmas, get all your questions answered under one roof at Ashford Gateway. It is a multi-agency service that delivers a wide range of public and voluntary services from an accessible, friendly location. Check out the website at www.ashfordgateway.co.uk.



WILKINSON

Kids large light-up snowman - includes batteries, £8



WILKINSON

Black floral vase, £6



WILKINSON

Wilko Christmas sparkle berry heart wreath, £7

ADAMS KIDS

Girls fur lined 'uggy'-style boots in camel, from £11.99



WILKINSON

Drum set including bass drum, two tom toms, cymbal and two drumsticks. Age three-plus, £10



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selected styles

www.barratts.com

ORANGE SHOP

The Samsung black G600 handset – available on pay-as-you-go or monthly tariffs



TOPMAN

Blue skinny jeans, £30



ADAMS KIDS

Animal print pyjamas from £8.99; Fairy castle bath robe from £10.99, fairy castle pyjamas from £8.99



DOROTHY PERKINS

Star print dressing gown, £25



BARRATTS

Western-style boot, £75



DOROTHY PERKINS

Blue one-shoulder corsage dress, £45



TOPMAN

Aztec skull print wallet, £10



TOPMAN

Black patent shoes, £55

Wilkinson

Want the widest range of goods all at great savings and all under one roof? Then why not pay a visit to Wilkinson? The popular chain has more than 310 stores across the UK and has developed its reputation through competitively priced items across a huge range of leading brands and its Wilko Own Brand.

Thomas Cook

The doom and gloom of the British winter weather can get us all down at this time of the year – so how better to put a spring in your step by booking up a holiday break? Thomas Cook has a huge range of places to escape to – whether you want beaches and sun, or mountains and snow.

Dr & Herbs

Whatever your ache, pain or problem, why not pop in to Dr & Herbs to see if they have a remedy for you? The outlet provides a range of treatments and services, including acupuncture, Chinese medicine, acu-pressure, medical massage, reflexology and skin and beauty care. Plus there are always lots of special offers.

Topshop/Topman

Don't be out of fashion this Christmas and party season – pop into one of the UK's top clothing stores and make sure you step out in style. Boasting the latest women's fashions in TopShop and the best men's gear in TopMan, the store is a one-stop shop to ensure you hit the town looking fabulous.

Barratts

The second largest independent shoe retailer in the UK, Barratts aims to offer an extensive range of footwear for the whole family, combining leading-edge fashion with exceptional value for money. It blends own label footwear with famous labels such as Hush Puppies, Caterpillar, and Kickers.

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Santa's Arriving

On November 29th, 11am - 5pm for the 1st opening of his grotto with his 2 elves, then every Saturday after that (6th, 13th and 20th) 10am - 4pm until the run up to Christmas day where he will be around December 22nd, 23rd, and 24th all day.



Accessorize
Adams
Barratts Shoes
Bronzone
Butterfly's
Dolland & Aitchison
Dorothy Perkins
Dr & Herbs
Health Matters
Hearing Company
KallKwik
KCC Gateway
Learn Direct
MaRi Novelty's
Millets
Office Angels
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Wilkinson

Park Mall Shopping Centre Ashford T: 01233 630811 www.parkmallshopping.co.uk

To search for shopping, services, leisure and entertainment log on @
yourkenttv.co.uk

COLLEGE GIRL

Short trench coat, price £25;
top, price £10; jeans, price £12



ASHFORD SHOPPING

Find out what's in store with centre's website

COUNTY Square has launched a new website in time for Christmas.

The site has a fresh, striking design featuring full event listings, promotional offers, fashion advice and creative gift inspiration from retailers in the centre.

Frances Burt, commercial manager, said: "We're confident customers will find it to be an effective way to see what's on in the centre and for our retailers to showcase their fabulous products."

To find out more see www.county-squashoppingcentre.com

Late night opening to help you bag a bargain

MEANWHILE, County Square chiefs have also confirmed opening dates over the festive season.

From Monday, December 15, to Tuesday, December 23, County Square will open late until 8pm every evening, excluding Sunday, December 21, when the centre shuts at 5pm as normal. On Christmas Eve, it will open from 9am to 4pm, Christmas Day it will be shut, and on Boxing Day shoppers will flock to the centre from 9am to 5pm.

Film celebrates history of a much-loved venue

IF you have fond memories of trips to Folkestone's Leas Cliff Hall then a new DVD charting its heritage may prove the perfect Christmas present.

The Leas Cliff Hall - A History DVD is released on December 1 and takes a fascinating look back over the last 81 years of the venue. It has been compiled by official historians, Ken and June Paine.

The DVD costs £15 and is available from the box office, alternatively call 01303 228600 for more information.

Quirky liner helps you to never forget an item

WITH a busy festive season ahead many women will be doing a lot of handbag swapping, from office bags to casual or evening versions.

It can be easy for some essential items to be overlooked, which is why Quirkybags has produced the VIP Handbag Liner range, priced from £23. There are four styles available in a variety of sizes and each features 9 zipped and meshed pockets, allowing the contents to be lifted from one bag to the next. There is even one for men.

To order call 01508 480249 or visit www.quirkybags.co.uk.

Create a special Disney book for your child

GIVE your child a magical Christmas present with a personalised story book from Disney.

WHSmith is offering the chance to create a customised book featuring your child's name and personal details alongside their favourite characters from films like Toy Story and Ratatouille.

Until December 10, WHSmith is offering a 20 per cent discount on orders over £30. Order at www.whsmith.co.uk.

Prices start at £8.99 with delivery from £1.99. Allow up to 21 days for delivery.

DEBENHAMS

Star by Julien
MacDonald body con
dress, price £45

BHS
Fuchsia and
lace dress,
price £40



KOS MEDIA READER OFFER

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Europe's No1 tribute to
Frankie Valli & The Four Seasons.

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yourashfordtimeout

YOUR TV REVIEW

RUDE TUBE
E4, 10pm, Wednesday
A QUESTION OF SPORT
BBC One, 7.30pm, Friday

BY TOM BETTS

THOSE of you who are not internet-crazy but still interested in what is going on online may want to check out Rude Tube, E4's window into the best of what video-hosting sites like YouTube have to offer.

What's good about this show is that, due to the rapidly evolving nature of the World Wide Web, there's so much to choose from that even the most ardent surfer will miss some things.

As well as steering the way to an occasional classic (that guy who danced his silly dance in ever more exotic locations around the globe), there are pointers to those less well-known clips, the little gems that may have passed you by.

From the man who took a picture of himself every day for six years, to Alanis Morissette's unique take on the Black Eyed Peas hit My Lumps, the choice is almost infinite.

While Rude Tube is not a show to slap in your diary, as half an hour of escapism and a look at the weird and wonderful world of the web, it delivers quite nicely.

A Question of Sport is a funny old animal these days, is it not?

When I was a lad, just knee-high to Emlyn Hughes's shinpads or Bill Beaumont's rugby socks, this was a solid bit of family viewing with a winning formula.

Picture Board, What Happened Next, oh, and who's that dressed as a milkman in the Mystery Guest round... Linford Christie or Martin Offiah?



WRONG ANSWER: Question of Sport captains Dawson (left) and Tufnell are not up to scratch

You could set your watch by the formula, it was like a reliable family friend similar to the man with the deep voice who announces the football scores.

It's all gone to pot these days, though, and now seems to be more of a personality contest than a sports quiz.

Main offenders are Phil Tufnell and the easy-to-despise Matt Dawson, show-off extraordinaire and possibly the cockiest man on the box right now.

The most amusing part of the show these days is trying to keep track of the never-ending amount of handshakes handed out by Tuffers (seriously, try... it's almost mesmeric).

Not content with ruining this classic, for some strange reason the Beeb has even started to repeat this one on Monday nights, while we have to wait for original programming, the rather good Inside Sport.

It's not A Question of Sport, and furthermore it's not cricket either.

YOUR WEEK'S HOROSCOPE

BY RUSSELL GRANT



AQUARIUS (Jan 21-Feb 19)

WORKING with a charitable organisation brings out your leadership skills. You're able to keep people focused on the ideals of a project, rather than the niggling details. A benefactor could give you money to continue with a bold initiative. Be sure to use the cash wisely.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aquarius** 09067-531762



TAURUS (Apr 21-May 21)

AN irresistible sexual attraction could throw life off kilter. This was the last thing you were expecting. If you're already in a relationship, you need to decide whether you're going to stay with your partner or break ties altogether. Resist the temptation to take the middle road.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Taurus** 09067-531753



LEO (Jul 24-Aug 23)

DISCOVERING a hidden talent feels as though you've found a sixth sense. All of a sudden you appreciate life on levels you never dreamed possible. This creative turn will put you on the path to romance. If you have a lover, it will feel as though you've embarked on a second honeymoon.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Leo** 09067-531756



SCORPIO (Oct 24-Nov 22)

ADDITIONAL income could come your way. At long last, you'll be able to afford the luxuries you've always wanted. Be willing to tell a neighbour or sibling the painful truth. In time, they will thank you for your honesty and your reputation for good advice will blossom.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Scorpio** 09067-531759



PISCES (Feb 20-Mar 20)

YOU'RE in demand thanks to your ability to deal with people from all walks of life makes. Most of your time will be spent working behind the scenes and you'd rather work in private than have someone looking over your shoulder. Your new role will give you a fresh status.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Pisces** 09067-531763



GEMINI (May 22-Jun 22)

MAKING a serious commitment will result in a tremendous change. Operating as part of a team will change the way you view yourself. At long last, you realise you can't handle all of this responsibility by yourself. Leaning on someone who has your best interests at heart will be a relief.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Gemini** 09067-531754



VIRGO (Aug 24-Sep 23)

MOVING home is looking likely and it will be a great for you, even if it means leaving friends and family behind. Being in new surroundings will force you to acquire skills you'd otherwise avoid like becoming a fully fledged artist or creative thinker.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Virgo** 09067-531757



SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23-Dec 21)

YOU'RE sure a bright idea will be well received and you're right. Your fiscal fortunes will dramatically improve as a result of sharing your knowledge, skill or expertise because people are eager to learn what you have to teach. Personally, a relationship will take on a lighter note.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Sagittarius** 09067-531760



ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 20)

YOU'RE starting to realise it's necessary to leave your usual surroundings to make a personal discovery. Getting in touch with your needs may prompt you to embark on a new career path. It will be much easier to command authority and respect when you have a better sense of who you are.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aries** 09067-531752



CANCER (Jun 23-Jul 23)

THIS week brings you the determination and drive to take better care of yourself. Losing weight, eating better, and getting enough sleep makes you look years younger. Job opportunities related to travel, publishing, and education need to be checked out.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Cancer** 09067-531755



LIBRA (Sep 24-Oct 23)

PICKING up new knowledge will be an exciting turning point for you. Big changes look likely at home as well. You may have to stand up for what you believe to be right and part ways with a relative who has upset you in some way. Your self assertive stance will give you confidence.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Libra** 09067-531758



CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 20)

BREAKING a bad habit or overcoming a pessimistic attitude will liberate you physically and spiritually. As a result, you'll be able to assert yourself with renewed strength and vigour. Putting an end to outmoded relationships gives you more time to do what you love.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Capricorn** 09067-531761

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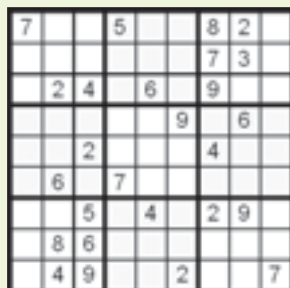
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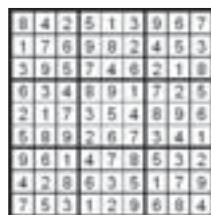
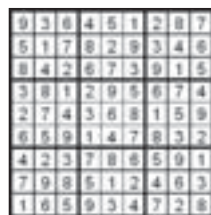


A 25x25 crossword puzzle grid. The grid is filled with black squares, and the numbers 1 through 25 are placed in the starting squares of the words. The numbers are placed in the following squares:

- 1: Row 1, Column 1
- 2: Row 1, Column 2
- 3: Row 1, Column 3
- 4: Row 1, Column 4
- 5: Row 1, Column 5
- 6: Row 1, Column 6
- 7: Row 1, Column 7
- 8: Row 1, Column 8
- 9: Row 1, Column 9
- 10: Row 1, Column 10
- 11: Row 1, Column 11
- 12: Row 1, Column 12
- 13: Row 1, Column 13
- 14: Row 1, Column 14
- 15: Row 1, Column 15
- 16: Row 1, Column 16
- 17: Row 1, Column 17
- 18: Row 1, Column 18
- 19: Row 1, Column 19
- 20: Row 1, Column 20
- 21: Row 1, Column 21
- 22: Row 1, Column 22
- 23: Row 1, Column 23
- 24: Row 1, Column 24
- 25: Row 1, Column 25

- 1 Optimistic (7)
- 2 Electronic post (5)
- 3 Perfectly balanced (2,4,2,4)
- 4 Rodeo hat (anag.), lady's name (8)
- 5 Bandit (6)
- 7 Illuminated with wax cylinders (9)
- 8 Irish interjection (7)
- 12 Voice higher than contralto (5-7)
- 15 Amusing remark (9)
- 17 Speediest (8)
- 18 Harangue (7)
- 20 Hung freely (7)
- 21 Twelfth Night character (6)
- 23 Drive forward (5)

HARD



ACROSS: 1 Janus 4 Shimpete 8 Clutch at
straws 10 Deertling 11 Index 12 Wage 13
Fratration 17 Fishgun 18 Leah 22 Rivet 24
Cathedral 25 Kriekerbockers 26 Neophyte
27 Rhyme DOWN: 1 Jackdaw 2 Neuragia
3 Sacket 4 Sea-air 5 Insignia 6 Marzipan
7 Toward 9 Oven 14 Inebriety 15 Whittecap
16 Quackery 17 Form 19 Holy See 20
Stable 21 Fencer 23 Venue.



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Take the big ship to Dunkirk

■ BY GARY WRIGHT

WE'RE pretty lucky here in Kent: we can genuinely boast some beautiful countryside, some great restaurants and decent days out.

All in all it's a good place to live. And when we want to get away for a few days, we are surely the best placed in Britain: Europe is just 22 miles away.

I never understand why people subject themselves to a day driving to Devon or Cornwall only to face endless jams and over-priced food?

Heading across the Channel has always seemed the better option to me.

Two hours on a ferry and you are in a charming foreign country and if the mood takes you, you can be in a Mediterranean cafe in less time than it takes you to drive to a Cornish beach in summer.

And for a short break, France has always offered the people of Kent a lot.

I'd forgotten what Dunkirk was like. It's right on our doorstep really but over the years I have missed it because I've either turned right at the port heading for Le Touquet or Normandy or if I have turned left I've generally been heading for Germany or further east.

NorfolkLine ferries out of Dover will take you to Dunkirk port in two hours for just £19 if you chose your time right.

Well the port's not actually in Dunkirk, the town's another 11km east but don't miss the charming little town of Gravelines which is actually much closer and definitely worth a visit.

A walled town surrounded by canals, it has markets twice a week, pretty architecture and my meal in Le Harlequin restaurant near the waterfront ranks in my top ten seafood meals, ever.

Dunkirk though is a bustling town which still feels prosperous and balances nicely its



HISTORIC PORT: The Duchesse Anne, one of the Musee Portuaire attractions in Dunkirk

historic past and industrial present with the shopping and restaurants demanded by visitors.

After a few days in France the only thing I ever miss is a decent cup of tea, so I was pleasantly surprised to find a really lovely tearoom, La Palmeraie.

It's decorated with an African jungle theme, tucked away just off the main shopping centre, and it is popular with locals of all ages who popped for a cup of Darjeeling or Earl Grey (or about a dozen other types) along with a crepe or gaufre (a pancake or waffle respectively).

Dunkirk has a lot of history, founded in the 8th Century it is still France's third most important port (and I learned the very last city to be liberated in 1945).

Damn, I was determined not to mention 1940, Operation Dynamo or the Little Ships, so I won't – but be assured the town has not forgotten.

History goes back way before the Wars though, so look out for Jean Bart. You won't miss him, there's a huge statue in the centre of town.

Part private pirate and part French naval man, during the late 1600s Dunkirk's most celebrated son saved Paris from starvation and gave the British Navy a kicking at sea too.

An interesting chap as I discovered to my delight at the Musee Portuaire (picture left).

I'm not a big fan of museums but I was genuinely pleased I popped in. Alongside a look the dockworkers' lives over the years in Dunkirk, and a summary of the aforementioned M. Bart's successes, there is a special exhibition until January: The Story of the Liner.

Dunkirk made 11 between 1914 and 1966 and the museum shows models with mock up cabins and uniforms. But the jewel for me is the 24-minute colour promotional film from 1953. A true insight into the time complete with period racial stereotyping and everyone smoked (well they were French).

Nowadays smoking indoors is banned and the social character of France has changed slightly. But for a couple of days, the town offers a convenient taste of France on our doorstep.

We would like to thank the tourism offices in Dunkirk and Gravelines and Norfolkline Ferries (0844 8475042 or www.Norfolkline.com) for their help.



MALO les BAINS: Where holidaymakers head in Dunkirk for the summer

FACT FILE: FRANCE

Time difference	UK plus 1 hr
Capital	Paris
Population	60.7 million
Language	French
Climate	North, as UK
Religion	Catholic
Currency	Euro (€1.17 approx to £1)

Travel details

There are several themed short break programmes for stays in Dunkerque and the French Flanders region through the Office de Tourisme Dunkerque Dunes de Flandre region.

Breaks include a Discovery Weekend from 69 euros to discover the maritime and wartime history of Dunkerque: includes a pass to its museums, a port tour, free public transport and shopping coupons. From 69 euros per person (two people sharing a double room); you can have 1 night B&B in a 2 star hotel, dinner and a tourist pass.

Other breaks include the Dunkerque Gourmet Weekend from 99 euros per person.

Discovering the fortifications of Gravelines and its history costs from 91 euros per person (based on two people sharing). One night at a bed and breakfast or hotel, gourmet dinner, museum entry a canal tour, audioguide of the walled town.

For more information visit: www.flandrecotedopale.com or email: dunkerque@flandrecotedopale.com

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CHOKE (18)



From maverick author Chuck Palahniuk (*Fight Club*) and new writer-director Clark Gregg comes the subversively comedic tale of Victor Mancini, an artist, sex addict, colonial village re-enactor, angst-filled son, serial restaurant choker... and unsuspecting romantic antihero for our unsettling times.

MAX PAYNE (15)



Based on the video game, Max Payne tells the story of a maverick cop determined to track down those responsible for the brutal murder of his family and partner. Hell-bent on revenge, his obsessive investigation takes him on a nightmare journey into a dark underworld.

Leo on the party line

BY KATE WHITING

LEONARDO DiCaprio has come a long way from being the 23-year-old heartthrob who sparked teenage mania in the blockbusting tearjerker *Titanic*.

Ten years on he still has the same youthful good looks, which today are partially covered with a little beard, and he still draws a screaming crowd to premieres, but he's a far more serious actor.

He campaigns about the environment, is politically outspoken and chooses his roles carefully.

When we meet to discuss his latest film, *Body Of Lies*, at a swish London hotel, it's just days after Barack Obama's historic US presidential election victory and DiCaprio is clearly thrilled.

"I was in Rome [on election day]. I stayed up all night and watched the results come in and it was an overwhelming, resounding victory for our fantastic new president. I couldn't be more excited," he says.

Appropriately, *Body Of Lies* deals with the very real ramifications of the outgoing President George W Bush's 'war on terror' in the Middle East.

DiCaprio plays Roger Ferris, a CIA agent on the ground, spying on terrorist cells, while a fattened-up Russell Crowe plays Ed Hoffman, who plans Ferris' operations from his laptop back home in the USA.

The 34-year-old said: "In a turbulent time like this, when the US is occupying the Middle East, here you have a highly trained CIA operative who's very effective at what he does, he's forged valuable relationships in the Middle East but he's not looking for that



YOUR CALL: Leonardo DiCaprio plays CIA agent Roger Ferris in *Body of Lies*

quick fix, the appearance of victory, he's looking for long-term solutions and he's trying to respect the culture and reach a positive result. Meanwhile his country is constantly undermining him and usurping his intelligence and I feel like my character was operating in a higher moral context than his country would like him to, and that's fascinating for me.

"He also goes on a long journey where he isn't beholden to any country or idealistic thought or political regime, and he doesn't

necessarily believe in the war. What a great character to be able to play, certainly at a time like this."

You could almost believe that DiCaprio was talking about himself or the new US administration.

"There's a lot of differences between the old administration and the new one," he says.

"Obama's been very vocal about wanting to stop the war in the Middle East and the American people have spoken in droves

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about that as well. What's been beautiful for me, going on this film tour, is to see how supportive the rest of the world has been about Obama winning.

"It's really a special time in my life to watch this historic event and it's been more profound that I ever imagined."

In January, DiCaprio will team up with *Titanic* co-star Kate Winslet again in the Oscar-tipped *Revolutionary Road*, directed by Winslet's husband, Sam Mendes.

But rather than recapturing the star-crossed lovers on the doomed ship, DiCaprio and Winslet play a young couple in 1950s America, struggling to make their relationship work.

"She's one of my best friends and we've been in communication a lot since *Titanic*. This project sort of came out of nowhere, it was one she had secretly been developing," he explains.

"We both knew the territory very well and all the stuff that would come with us working together again, but this was a unique piece of material. For a relationship movie, this was diametrically opposed to what we had done before."

BODY OF LIES
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PROPERTY NEWS

'Tenants can look beyond social sector'

HOUSING minister Margaret Beckett has distanced herself from reports that the Government is considering scrapping lifetime social tenancies, but she has said she would like to see people try to move into the private sector.

Speaking at a seminar organised by The Smith Institute think tank, Mrs Beckett described the housing reform green paper on social housing as "very much a work in progress".

She said: "I've made no decision, and nor has any minister, on the content and timing of the green paper."

"We've made substantial improvements to the housing stock, [but] we've not been nearly so good in investing in people who are living in these homes."

And Mrs Beckett indicated that she wanted to encourage social tenants or would-be social tenants to look beyond social housing to the private sector.

"If people could find greater stability and security in the private rented sector, or could take advantage of low-cost home ownership, then maybe fewer would think social housing was their only option," she said.

Charity alarmed by economic distress

EIGHTY per cent of those who took part in a recent survey want the Government to be more active in helping homeowners at risk of having their homes repossessed to combat the risk of people being forced on to the streets this winter.

The poll, for homeless charity St Mungo's, also found 52 per cent of Britons are concerned about their financial situation and more are now cutting down their spending on gas, electricity, heating and food.

"We are witnessing a downturn in the economy that is being felt at all levels of society," said St Mungo's chief executive Charles Fraser.

"The Government needs to act quickly if we are to avoid a sharp increase of rough sleepers on the streets."



AT RISK: Winter on the streets



WHAT AM I BID?: Even auctions – normally a guaranteed way of shifting houses – have been unable to break the credit crunch's stranglehold on the property market, forcing agents and sellers to become more creative and proactive

A real hammering

■ BY NICK AMES

THE economic situation could mean a new approach for professionals selling homes, according to experts.

The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors says the business of typical 'old-style' estate agents has hit a 30-year low, selling an average of just one home a week.

Property auctions have usually been regarded as a surefire way of getting rid of homes that are difficult to shift, but one last month involved 74 lots of homes and land – and received just three bids and no sales.

While some vendors are now adopting unusual tactics, from staging raffles to throwing in free cars or holidays with their homes, a few pioneering estate agents are considering revolutionising the way they sell properties.

Lauristons estate agency is now charging a £999 flat fee for selling a home instead of the

two per cent to three per cent charged by most of its high street rivals, saving prospective sellers of average priced properties as much as £8,000.

"The market's changing and the current economic climate means it probably won't be the same in the future," warned the firm's sales and marketing director, Steve Truman.

Thornley Groves, a traditional estate agency chain, has bought 25 per cent of Brightsale, a pioneering online estate agency.

Brightsale has no physical 'branch'. Its trained negotiators instead advise sellers on how to handle buyers, and will arrange floor plans, photographs and brochures. The fee, if a home sells, is 0.5 per cent, or only a sixth of the levy by many conventional agents.

"We'd been searching for a way to bring

estate agencies into the 21st century. Clients love what we do but in the internet era they expect more," said Thornley Groves' managing director, Michael Groves.

"Estate agencies have a long way to go to harness the power of the internet for the benefit of their customers."

Two other estate agents are trying a different idea – swapping houses. Lynn Thompson and Chris Tinsley run separate agencies but have joined forces to try to 'match' sellers, who are encouraged to swap properties of equal value, or trade up or down and pay the difference.

While some of these pioneering efforts may fall by the wayside when the housing market picks up – business consultancies and agents themselves suggest 2010 as the earliest date that will happen – at least a few of these schemes may last long enough to become mainstream as house selling changes.

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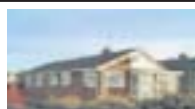
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MOTORS NEWS



Hyundai and Kia soar to join top five carmakers

AUTOCAR magazine has named Hyundai-Kia as its Automotive Manufacturer of the Year at its annual award ceremony in London.

Citing the Korean giant's "mind-blowing" ambition, editor Chas Hallett presented the title to Mr Nam-Yong Kim, president of Hyundai-Kia's European research and development centre in Germany.

Hallett said: "When the irrepressible Hyundai-Kia group started talking, just a few years ago, about wanting to become the world's fifth largest car company behind Toyota, GM, Ford and Audi-VW, many of us were sceptical.

"Then the Korean group got serious. They hatched a plan to assemble a European design and engineering team to conceive a range of models for Europe."

The product of a merger in 1998, Hyundai-Kia currently dominate the Korean domestic car market with an 80 per cent share and this year became the world's fifth largest car-maker according to Automotive News in the US.



Asda sparks price war by cutting petrol costs

SUPERMARKET giant Asda has reignited the fuel price war by lowering its petrol prices to 90.9p per litre.

It is Asda's tenth consecutive cut since July and brings prices to their lowest level since April 2007. The price of diesel has been reduced to 105.9p per litre.

With the price of crude oil continuing to fall, other retailers will be under pressure to follow Asda's lead.

The price of a barrel has dropped to barely 50 US dollars (£33), from almost \$150 (£100) in early July.

Car giants beg for cash

THE three biggest US carmakers have pleaded with Congress for a \$25 billion lifeline to save their once-proud companies from collapse.

"Our industry... a bridge to span the financial chasm that has opened up before us," said General Motors' chief Rick Wagoner.

Chrysler chief Robert Nardelli, added that a bailout would be "the least costly alternative" when compared with damage from bankruptcy.

But Republican Senators argues that "inefficient production" and "costly labour agreements" have put the US carmakers at a disadvantage against foreign rivals.



A BRIGHT FUTURE: Instead of dithering with a facelift of the 2002 Fiesta, Ford has completely restyled its latest creation with a coupé roofline and excellent handling

Ford changes into top gear with new Fiesta

HAVING done more than anyone to make the supermini popular in the UK after launching the original Fiesta in 1976, Ford then rested on its laurels.

The company will say the newly-launched replacement is the 'Mark VII', but it is really only the fourth generation.

Ford has turned Fiesta facelifts into an art form and even managed to spin-off the guts of one version to create the underpinnings of the original Ka. You just have to admire such salesmanship and nerve, though it helps when you are market leader and have a vice-like grip on the fleet sector.

But times are changing: the nation wants to downsize and cut costs and emissions while Ford would like to ease out of the cut-throat business sector, move upmarket and woo private buyers.

The US car giant is also looking outside the Fiesta's traditional UK and Europe stronghold, to create a global supermini with all the consequent economies of scale.

So, instead of dithering with a facelift of the

ROAD TEST FORD FIESTA

BY STEVE LOADER

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Green rating	★★★★★

then all-new – but not especially loved – 2002 Fiesta, Ford has gone for another fresh start.

And it's an impressive one.

Physically, the car is the same scale as before, rather than a 'super-supermini' like the Peugeot 207 and Renault Clio, perhaps to protect sales of the bigger Focus.

Nevertheless, I thought the knee room good, though lofty passengers will just have to lump it, for the terrific coupé roofline common to both body styles.

Styling inside is typically well-arranged and quality and durability is top-notch, but the drive clinches the deal for me; a well-judged balance between typically sharp handling and ride, light yet responsive steering and a terrific gearshift.

It is a tough call deciding the engine though. I like the all-round competence of the 1.4 TDCi diesel, but the frugal road tax-exempt/low emission 1.6TDCi diesel ECONetic is due in January.

Then again, do not ignore the petrol models; they are so quiet and frugal that they could be your best buy if petrol versus diesel pump prices still diverge and your mileages are only average.

• Email steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk



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BY STEVE LOADER @

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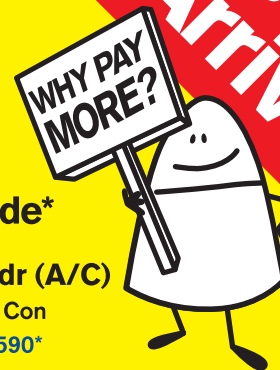
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51 to 56 Reg Mini One/Cooper/S - Choice of 25	£7,499
03 to 56 Reg Toyota Yaris - Choice of 20	£4,999
52 to 07 Reg Vauxhall Corsa - Choice of 20	£4,799

MPVs

MPVs	Choice of 140
54 to 57 Reg Peugeot 807 - Choice of 10	£9,999
04 to 08 Reg Renault Scenic - Choice of 10	£5,699
Y to 07 Reg Citroen Picasso - Choice of 20	£3,799
05 to 08 Reg Ford Focus C-Max - Choice of 10	£6,499
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54 to 07 Reg VW Sharan - Choice of 15	£9,999

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06 to 08 Reg Peugeot 207 - Choice of 25	£6,799
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06 to 56 Reg BMW 1 Series - Choice of 5	£12,999
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W to 04 Reg Lexus IS200 - Choice of 5	£6,499
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Large Cars	Choice of 215
54 to 08 Reg Peugeot 407 - Choice of 50	£5,999
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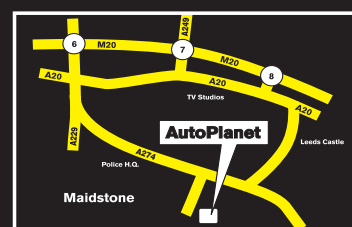
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USED CAR ROUND-UP: OUR PICK FROM A KEY SECTOR

BABY HOT HATCHES

IT'S not just owners of family cars who are having to downsize their ambitions under pressure from rising fuel costs and road tax – performance car owners are also having to get real. Their answer can be found in the buoyant secondhand market for supermini hot hatchbacks like the three little scorchers featured here. No, your insurance premiums won't be a lot better, but you will save on fuel and tax and driving enjoyment could be even higher than before, even if some creature and ride comfort is sacrificed.

carsfor Kent.co.uk

FORD FIESTA ST



FORD has been one of the champions of hot hatches over the years with its XR and recent ST versions of standard models. The Fiesta ST upholds the tradition in terms of pace and handling even if it can be noisy and ride comfort is primitive. Power comes from a feisty 148bhp 2.0-litre engine so the lowered stance and styling add-ons do not flatter to deceive but, as when new, the Fiesta is not the cheapest contender on the market.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

MITSUBISHI COLT CZT



SOMETHING of an unsung hero, this turbocharged 150bhp 1.5-litre three-door supermini delivers a lot of bangs for your bucks and withstands the potential thrashing hot hatchbacks can be exposed to. 'Mitsi' has made a good job of ensuring the car's extra urge is delivered progressively and when you want it, although the driving experience is not one of the best. The car is well made though and spacious and imaginatively trimmed inside.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

SEAT IBIZA CUPRA



SEAT is the affordable performance brand in the VW Group, with its FR and Cupra versions of standard cars epitomising that label and winning big sales. The Ibiza Cupra is one of the stars and usually seen in bright yellow and red; something of a trademark in a market where most cars have a metallic paint job. Diesel and petrol versions are offered and share pin sharp handling and a decent ride quality – not always compatible in a small hot hatch.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

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ALFA ROMEO

146 TI, 5 door, p 1996, 2 owners from new, red, 94000 miles, £1495, Courtenay Cars, Charing, Ashford, 01233 714848 (TRADE)

AUDI

A4, 1.9tdi 130 se estate, 2003, blue m with grey cloth, 67000 miles, £3950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

BENTLEY

ARNAGE, red label auto, 2001, biennial silver with black leather, 50000 miles, £4495, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

BMW

3 SERIES, 1.6i Saloon 4d 1596cc, 1316hmo, good runner, green, miles, £995.00, DCD Autos, Ashford, 01233 642211 (TRADE)

7 SERIES, 745i auto, 2002, silver met with black nascar leather, 52000 miles, £14950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

CADILLAC

CTS, cts 3.6 sport luxury v6, 2005, light platinum with black leather, 22379 miles, £12950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

CHEVROLET

CAPTIVA, LTZ 2.0, gk080w, blue, 4000 miles, £22995, Caffyns Chevrolet T Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

CHRYSLER

300C, 5.7v6 auto estate, 2007, brilliant crystal met with dark and light slate gr, £18950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

CITROEN

C3, 1.4i 16V Cachet 5dr, 2008, 1.4i 16V cachet 5dr hatch special edition, arctic steel, 1000 miles, £8995, Masters Citroen, Penge, 0208 659 0909 (TRADE)

C3, 1.4i 16V Cachet 5dr, 2008, 1.4i 16V cachet 5dr hatch special edition, blue, 6000 miles, £8995, Barretts Citroen, Canterbury, 0845 3709768 (TRADE)

FIAT

MAREA, TD 100 SX Weekend, 1998, red, 106000 miles, £2995, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

FORD

FORD KA VAN, 10 2003, 1.3 petrol ex bt 28.000 miles fish white sold with rac warranty, £2350, Beaver Commercial, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

HONDA

CIVIC, tornado 1.4 i, 1998, turquoise, 107000 miles, £1695, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

HYUNDAI

GETZ, CDX 5dr, cv08avc, blue, 3000 miles, £7995, Automatically Ray Morris (Welling), 01892 515700 (TRADE)

JAGUAR

XJ V8, 4.0 sovereign lwb, 2002, seafrost blue met with catkin leather interior, 71000 miles, £9950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

JEEP

GRAND CHEROKEE, 1997, green, 180000 miles, £12950, Martin James Cars, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

KIA

SORENTO, XS 2.5, gl06vcx, finished in blue with interior, blue, 16000 miles, £3995, Caffyns Tunbridge Wells Vauxhall, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

LAND ROVER

DEFENDER, 90 TD5 County Station Wagon, y207gk, air conditioning, metallic blue, £12495, Diesel Centre, Staplehurst, 01580 890333 (TRADE)

FREELANDER, 1998, met green with beige, 91644 miles, £3250, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

LEXUS

IS 300, 3.0 Saloon 4dr 2997cc auto, 03/2003, climate control cruise control traction control & much much more!!!, blue metallic, 64, 000 miles, £3995, Cheriton Motor House, Folkestone, 01303 275795 (TRADE)

MAZDA

323, GT 5dr, v674dnu, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, head restraints, power steering, air bag, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, air conditioning, cd player, stereo, 15" alloys, aluminium silver, 87000 miles, £1999, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

GS, 2005, blue metallic, 19299 miles, £6495, WJ King Vauxhall, Bromley, 020 8464 3456 (TRADE)

MERCEDES-BENZ

A CLASS, A150 Avantgarde SE Lwb 5dr, vu55ave, alloy wheels, aluminium silver, 21000 miles, £3995, Automatically Ray Morris (Welling), Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

C CLASS, C180k Avantgarde SE, 4763314, alloy wheels, cubanite silver, 14000 miles, £17995, Automatically Ray Morris (Welling), Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

MG

MGF, MG TF LE500 Special Edition 135, 58, petrol, orange, 10 miles, £16398, SMC Mitsubishi Sittingbourne, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

MINI

COOPER S, 1.6 3 DR, 2002, trim: cloth engine size: 1600 transmission: manual no. of doors: 3, blue, 42000 miles, £3995, Palm Bay, Margate, 01843 298554 (TRADE)

mitsubishi

COLT, 1.5 Sport, 2004, black, miles, £6995, Masters Group Mitsubishi Bromley, Beckenham, 0208 6587122 (TRADE)

SHOGUN, 3.5 gdi 5dr v6 auto, 2003, silver met with black leather, 37000 miles, £9950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

NISSAN

MICRA, 1.2 SE Automatic, 2004, techno grey, 22500 miles, £4995, CB Motors, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

NOTE, Acenta, aj57xre, alloy wheels, blue, 12000 miles, £8995, Automatically Ray Morris (Welling), Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

PEUGEOT

PEUGEOT PARTNER 600L, 09 2005, 1.9 diesel sold with rac warranty side door met silver ply lined 40.000 miles fish, £3775, Beaver Commercial, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

206, 1.1 8v Fevner Hatchback 3d 1124cc (2004), 53, silver, miles, £3299, Bob Fisher Garage, Ashford, 01303 814131 (TRADE)

306, 1.4, 1998, met red, 85046 miles, £1995, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

PORSCHE

911 CARRERA 4, 2002, meridian silver with blue leather, 46000 miles, £29950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

911 Turbo, 3.6 manual, 2003, black metallic with black leather, 17800 miles, £49950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

PROTON

PERSONA, 1.5 GLSI Saloon 4d 1468cc auto, s 1999, electric windows, drivers airbag, sunroof, remote mirrors, radio cassette, green, miles, £1995, Westbrook Cars, Canterbury, 01227 710685 (TRADE)

RENAULT

CLIO, Expression 1.2 3dr, 2005, trim: cloth engine size: 1200 transmission: manual no. of doors: 3, extreme blue, 25400 miles, £5295, Palm Bay, Margate, 01843 298554 (TRADE)

CLIO, Expression 1.4 5dr, 2006, trim: cloth engine size: 1400 transmission: manual no. of doors: 5, temper, 18000 miles, £6995, Palm Bay, Margate, 01843 298554 (TRADE)

MEGANE, Oasis 1.4, 2005, trim: cloth engine size: 1400 transmission: manual no. of doors: 5, blue, 31000 miles, £6995, Palm Bay, Margate, 01843 298554 (TRADE)

MODUS, Dynamique 1.6 Auto, 2005, trim: cloth engine size: 1600 transmission: automatic no. of doors: 5, mercury, 2300 miles, £7495, Palm Bay, Margate, 01843 298554 (TRADE)

SCENIC, Alize 1.6, 2000, trim: cloth engine size: 1600 transmission: manual no. of doors: 5, mercury, 59000 miles, £3995, Palm Bay, Margate, 01843 298554 (TRADE)

TRAFIC, L129 2.0 dci 115 Lwb, 853182, air conditioning, remote central locking, immobiliser, power steering, abs, air bag, cd player, dual passenger seat, bulkhead, ply-lined, side load door, white, 36000 miles, £7000, Clearways Commercial, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

ROVER

200, 216 CABRIOLET, 1997, grey, 0 miles, £1295, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

400, 2.0 16v Si Hatchback 5d 1994cc, t 1999, electric windows, srs airbag, radio cassette, air conditioning, 5 speed gearbox, metallic red, miles, £1995, Westbrook Cars, Canterbury, 01227 710685 (TRADE)

SAAB

9-3, Arc, 03, 03 plate top of the range 9-3 (new shape), 2 litre 150 bhp low pressure turbo good for 35-37 mpg, fish all extras including - multi airbags, bi-xenon headlights, electricdrivers seat, heated front seats, cream leather, parking sensors, cruise control, comprehensive on board computer, premium sound system, single cd, dual side climate control, alloys in good condition, 12 months mot 6 months tax, good condition generally, highish mileage (mostly motorway miles and done by me), a dassy looking car and fantastic value, merlot red, £3500, Folkestone, 07765608824 (PRIVATE)

SEAT

AROSA, Sport 16v 3dr, g51wvw, immobiliser, cloth upholstery, head restraints, power steering, air bag, colour coded body, rear wash/wipe, cd player, electric windows, 14" alloys, yellow, 50000 miles, £2999, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

SKODA

FABIA, 1.2 HTP 12v (64bhp) Classic Hatchback 5d 1198cc, 05/2005, alcon red, 43, 000 miles, £4995, Cheriton Motor House, Folkestone, 01303 275795 (TRADE)

SMART

FORTWO COUPE, 2005, pulse 2dr auto, silver, 11726 miles, £4995, Masters Citroen, Penge, 0208 659 0909 (TRADE)

SUBARU

IMPREZA, wrx turbo, 2004, red, 38000 miles, £10995, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

SUZUKI

ALTO, 1.1 GL Hatchback 5dr, £3895, Cheriton Motor House, Folkestone, 01303 275795 (TRADE)

GRAND VITARA, 2000, blue, 36000 miles, £3995, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

VAUXHALL

AGILA, DESIGN 1, gl08mtz, finished in atlanta blue with black interior, blue, 12000 miles, £6485, Caffyns Tunbridge Wells Vauxhall, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

ANTARA, L 2.0 AU, £16995, Caffyns Tunbridge Wells Vauxhall, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

ASTRA, SXi 1598cc 5 door, 2008, cd player air conditioning black, 5400 miles, £9695, Pomphrey's of Sittingbourne, Sittingbourne, 01795 476222 (TRADE)

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Approx 50 light vans and pick ups

A well attended and popular fortnightly sale

A selection of entries from Local Authorities, Local Companies, Main Dealerships & Others

Entries Invited

www.hobbsparkers.co.uk/cars • 01233 506266

Kent's State of the Art Auction Centre

Ashford Market • Monument Way • Ashford • Kent • TN24 0HB

HOBBS • PARKER
Car Auctions LLP

HOBBS • PARKER
Car Auctions LLP

Contact Jon Chapman

01233 506266

AUCTION

Wednesday 10th Dec 6.30pm

Four Wheel Drive, Diesel Cars & MPV

(followed by a general car auction)

Entries Invited

(it is very easy to book your vehicle into auction, just give us a call)

An extremely popular and well attended Auction typically offering in excess of 150 vehicles

Kent's State of the Art Auction Centre

Ashford Market • Monument Way • Ashford • Kent • TN24 0HB

www.hobbsparkers.co.uk/cars



Click online for a new car

Search and find 1000s of Kent cars online



Check out the prices of new and used car valuations



Search for your local car dealer



Find the latest car reviews and test drives on new cars



Get a car loan quote and calculate your repayments



CarsforKent.co.uk

The smart way to find your next car

POWERED BY KOS MEDIA



TO ADVERTISE: EMAIL US @: appointments@kosmedia.co.uk

TELEPHONE US ON: 01303 817040

FAX US ON: 01303 817004

- ACCOUNTANCY
- ADMINISTRATION, SECRETARIAL, PA
- AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, ENVIRONMENT
- ART AND DESIGN
- CATERING, HOSPITALITY
- CONSTRUCTION, ARCHITECTURE, SURVEYORS
- CUSTOMER SERVICE, CALL CENTRE
- DOMESTIC
- EDUCATION, TEACHER, SCHOOL
- ENGINEERING, MANUFACTURING, UTILITIES
- ESTATE AGENCY, PROPERTY

- GRADUATE, TRAINEES
- HEALTH AND SAFETY, SECURITY, DEFENCE
- HR, RECRUITMENT
- INDUSTRIAL, WAREHOUSE, FACTORY
- IT, INTERNET, TELECOMS
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- LEGAL
- LEISURE, TOURISM, TRAVEL
- MANAGEMENT CONSULTANCY
- MANAGEMENT, SENIOR POSITIONS
- MARKETING, ADVERTISING

- MOTOR TRADE, DRIVER
- NOT FOR PROFIT, CHARITIES
- NURSING, MEDICINE, CARE WORK
- OTHER
- PRINT, PACKAGING, DISTRIBUTION
- PR, MEDIA, JOURNALISM
- PUBLIC SECTOR, SOCIAL SERVICES
- RETAIL, WHOLESALE, SALES
- SCIENTIFIC AND PHARMACEUTICAL, RESEARCH
- TRANSPORT, LOGISTICS, AVIATION

Senior & General Appointments 47-51

PASSIONATE SOUS CHEF
required. Ramsgate sea front. Good rate of pay.
Please call 01843 594758, 07979 828292 or 07796 858612

DRIVERS WANTED
Hackney Licensed
Drivers wanted for Blue Line Taxi Company.
Please Call 01233 627476/666123 for more information

A2 CABS LTD
Full & Part Time
TAXI DRIVER'S
Required
Please contact
Elaine
01795 431500

MONTAGU COURT
Require
EXPERIENCED
night carer - NVQ 2
EXPERIENCED
part time cook
EXPERIENCED
cleaner
Please call 01843 220090

Experienced Florist required
Good rates of pay
Please call Isle Craft
Flowers on 01795 871308

BeneCare Fostering
OFSTED REGISTERED
Can you provide a safe and caring home for vulnerable children? We would love to hear from you if you are interested or involved in Fostering and would like additional information. Full training and support provided in addition to excellent rates of pay.
For details please contact 01732 746697
info@benecarefostering.co.uk
www.benecarefostering.co.uk

The Towers School
Faversham Road, Kennington
Ashford, Kent TN24 9AL
Tel: 01233 634171 • Fax: 01233 628326
Email: admin@towers.kent.sch.uk
11 - 19 Kent High School
1400 Students on roll (320 in 6th Form)

Teacher of Mathematics
(Full or Part-Time) • required as soon as possible
MPS + TLR 2a (£5,921)

Ofsted in May 2008 described Towers as a 'good school', and this is a key post in the future development of the school as we strive towards 'outstanding'. We are a successful Business and Enterprise specialist school, with Full Service Extended School status, and with one of the largest Sixth Forms in the County.

We are looking to recruit an additional Mathematics Teacher to join this strong and supportive department. The successful candidate will work with the Lead Teacher focussing on students that are predicted to achieve C/D at the end of Key Stage 4. The school has made significant gains in Math's outcomes in the last 3 years and this post will help achieve 50% + this year.

Applications are by CV and covering letter by email on admin@towers.kent.sch.uk, fax on 01233 628326 or post. Please mark for the attention of Mrs Kyla Weeden. All applications should be received by Wednesday, 26th November 2008. Interviews will be held the following week.

NVQ Guidance Assessors

Permanent full time - 40 hours per week (Mon - Fri)
Positions in London, Kent and Surrey
£23,061 to £26,092 pa plus benefits dependent on qualifications

YMCAfit are the leading provider of fitness instructor training. We are looking for enthusiastic and inspiring individuals to join our expanding work based learning team.

Candidates must have a Level 2 Gym Instructor Qualification. An Assessor Qualification (D32/D33 or A1) along with a Teaching Qualification is desirable; however we will provide training for suitable applicants.

For further information and to apply please contact Chandni Sehmi on greatstaff@ymca.co.uk or call 020 7343 1835 quoting reference: KGA.

Closing date: 15th December 2008.
Interview date: 22nd December 2008.

London Central YMCA is committed to the promotion of equal opportunities, both in the provision of its services and in its capacity as an employer.

www.ymcafit.org.uk

Not for profit. Registered Charity No. 1001043

Due to the opening of our new nursery on the Eversfield Business Park, Ashford we have the following vacancies:

- Manager
- Deputy manager
- Senior managers
- Senior nursery nurses
- Nursery assistants
- Cook

For more information please contact: **Q Day Nurseries Ltd, Ashford**
01233 627476/666123

Foster carers wanted

The Caldecott Foundation, which cares for vulnerable children who have experienced extreme trauma and disruption, seeks dedicated and highly motivated foster carers. Comprehensive training and support given, plus excellent rates of pay.
Contact Jamie Bromfield or Erica Eversfield on 01303 815648 or email fostering@caldecottfoundation.co.uk

The Caldecott Foundation, Smeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SP.

TEACHERS!
ARE YOU EARNING
£132 PER DAY?
IF NOT, CALL US! 01634 817575

EDUCATION SENSE

COULD YOU GIVE A CHILD A CHANCE ?

Integrated Services Programme (ISP) is an independent, not-for-profit childcare organisation providing foster care to children with a wide range of emotional and behavioural needs. We have Centres in Kent, London, Bucks and Sussex. We were judged "Outstanding" in our latest Ofsted inspections.

ISP looks after children from many different ethnic and cultural backgrounds including white UK, African, African-Caribbean, Asian and dual heritage. We are keen to recruit carers from similar cultural backgrounds. In addition, we are currently experiencing a high demand to look after children with varying disabilities, children who are involved in the criminal justice system and 'parent & child' placed together.

IF YOU HAVE:

- life experience
- the ability to work with children or young people and parents
- the ability to rise to the challenge of fostering
- patience, determination and a sense of humour
- no young children
- a spare bedroom
- a career change in mind

ISP WOULD LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU
We offer full training, 24 hour support and a professional fee from £411 to £543 a week for each child.

For an information pack please contact our Fostering Team on:
0800 085 7989
Visit our website for more information: www.ispchildcare.org.uk

Demelza Hospice Care for Children is a charity providing hospice care for over 450 children with life-limiting illnesses and support for their families across Kent, East Sussex and South London.

We offer specialised care in our 8 bedded residential hospice in Kent and in the family home through our dedicated Community Team working in East Sussex, South West Kent and South London.

We are delighted to announce the opening of a further 6 bedded hospice in Wensley Close, Eltham which will further enhance the services we can offer to the children and families.

We are seeking to recruit to the following post:-

Chef, Full Time, commencing ASAP
(£21,261 - £23,261 inc)

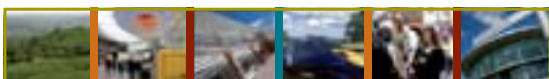
- NVQ II in catering or equivalent
- Diploma in Food Hygiene (level 4) and HACCP (level 3)
- Working with a team of dedicated volunteers to cover daily main meal at midday and an evening meal, including some weekends
- Excellent health and safety and best practice knowledge
- Knowledge of special diets and ability to train others in foundation food hygiene a distinct advantage.

For an informal chat about the role please call Lauren Clifford, Human Resources Officer on 01795 845254.
For an application pack please visit our website on www.demelza.org.uk or contact Recruitment Line on 01795 845295.
Please note that our new hospice has NO PARKING facilities for employees or volunteers.

Closing Date 5th December, 2008

Enhanced Disclosure checks by the CRB will be undertaken for successful applicants. Demelza is an equal opportunities employer and operates a no smoking policy. Registered Charity No. 1039651. Rook Lane, Bobbing, Sittingbourne, Kent ME9 8DZ

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



Managing Director's Personal Assistant Ashford's Future. Salary £29,000 p.a.

Ashford is one of the Government's major growth areas in the south-east and is set to double in size by 2031 with around 31,000 new homes. Ashford's Future is a new company set up to support that agenda, helping to deliver key projects and high quality developments where the community will have access to a wide range of community facilities and good transport links.

Our Managing Director is looking for an experienced Personal Assistant with a meticulous approach who is used to exercising confidentiality and diplomacy.

You will be a good communicator, capable of working on your own initiative. You should have experience of managing diaries, maintaining records as well as arranging and assisting at meetings, responding to correspondence, dealing with telephone calls and enquiries, as well as experience of preparing agendas for meetings. You will also be responsible for receiving visitors and dealing with all enquiries about Ashford's Future at first point of contact.

For an informal discussion please contact Judith Armit on 01233 330811.

Alternatively for an application form and further details, please send an A4 stamped addressed envelope to:

Personnel and Development, Civic Centre, Tannery Lane, Ashford, Kent, TN23 1PL

or e-mail recruitment@ashford.gov.uk

Closing date: 5 December 2008.

www.ashfordbestplaced.co.uk/jobs



Ashford
best placed in Britain



MidKent College

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint outstanding individuals in the following areas:

Assessor/Reviewing Officer (Motor Vehicle)

Ref: P0660

Salary: £19,736 - £25,441

We are looking to recruit a qualified, experienced and highly motivated Assessor/Reviewing officer able to assess trainees on NVQ qualifications up to Level 3 within our vibrant and successful Motor Vehicle department with body repair/paint and refinishing experience would be advantageous. The successful candidate will be able to demonstrate good organisational and IT skills and the ability to travel to numerous workplaces to assess trainees. A relevant level 3 qualification is essential and the successful candidate will have or be willing to work towards Assessor/Verifier and H&S qualifications.

Personal Tutor

Ref: P0516

£19,736 - £25,441 pro-rata (18.5 hours per week)

We currently have an opportunity for a part-time Personal Tutor. The post-holder will plan and deliver a range of group tutorials to learners with a wide range of abilities. You will be able to work with minimum supervision and have experience of working in a coaching, mentoring or teaching capacity and have or be willing to undertake an appropriate teaching qualification.

Skills for Life Administrator

Ref: P0474

Salary: £15,057 - £18,534

The successful candidate will be required to work at our sites in Maidstone and Chatham and will have exceptional knowledge and experience and of administration and office procedures and be able to demonstrate excellent organisational and IT skills.

Closing date: Friday, 12 December 2008

Mid-Kent College is working in partnership with RBL Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBL, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBL on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website www.rbl.co.uk for information, advice and guidance.

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and vulnerable adults and anyone applying for work with the College is expected to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to an Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the Personnel department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

Mid-Kent College is an equal opportunities employer



Voluntary Services Assistant circa £13-14k



Working alongside the Voluntary Services Manager based in Sittingbourne as part of the Human Resources team, you will assist with the recruitment, induction, training and on-going support of volunteers to help us deliver our services throughout Kent, East Sussex and South London.

You must be:-

- ◆ Computer literate with Microsoft Office applications
- ◆ An excellent communicator at all levels with endless patience
- ◆ Organised with a flair for complex issues
- ◆ Methodical in approach to administration work
- ◆ Hold a full driving licence
- ◆ Adaptable to constantly changing priorities and workload

Required for 37 hours per week to include some occasional weekend and evening working. Experience of the voluntary sector a distinct advantage.

For an informal discussion contact Lynne Clark, Voluntary Services Manager on 01795 845218. For an application pack please visit our website on www.demelza.org.uk or contact our Recruitment Line on 01795 845295.

Closing Date Friday 28th November, 2008

An Enhanced Disclosure check will be required for the successful applicant.
Demelza is an equal opportunities employer and operates a no smoking policy.
Registered Office Rook Lane, Bobbing, Sittingbourne, Kent ME9 8DZ



Medway Adult Learning Service Tutors and Tutor/Assessors

Ref: CA0374E

Venue: Various

Salary: LNFA 1-3 (£17,127 - £20,339) pay award pending

*LNFA 8 (£24,855) pay award pending

Medway Adult Learning Service is seeking to recruit part-time tutor/assessors for the following Train to Gain programmes:

iTQ, Business Admin, Health and Social Care, Teaching and Learning in Schools, Children's Care Learning & Development, Customer Care, Retail Sales

Successful candidates will develop and deliver high quality training and assessment procedures to part-time learners. Applicants must have a full qualification in the teaching of adults and D32/D33/A1 qualifications.

We are also seeking to appoint enthusiastic part-time tutors to teach and participate in the development of programmes in the following areas:

- GCSE subjects: Maths, Biology, Geography
- Skills for Life: ESOL, English and Maths, Personal development
- Complementary therapies: Reiki, Crystal healing, Hopi ear candles
- Languages: Greek, Japanese, French, Spanish, Italian
- Health and Safety: Fire safety, First aid, Health and safety awareness
- National Certificate in Door Supervision
- National Certificate for Personal Licence Holders
- Interior Design
- Computing: General teaching, AutoCad, Sage payroll
- Fitness: Level 3 Fitness Instruction, Yoga, Pilates, Golf, Pole dancing, Tai Chi
- Travel and tourism
- Adult Literacy Learning Support level 2
- Additional diploma in teaching Maths in LLS level 5*
- Plumbing
- RYA courses

A teaching qualification is not always essential but those without a qualification will be required to undertake training within the first year.

For further details and an application pack please contact Christine Osborne, 01634 338423 or email christine.osborne@medway.gov.uk

Any offer of employment for this post will be subject to a satisfactory Enhanced Criminal Bureau Disclosure.

Closing date: 5 December 2008.

For an application pack or to apply visit www.medway.gov.uk or phone 01634 333333 Mon to Fri 8am - 8pm, Sat 9am - 1pm or 01634 332843 24-hour answerphone.

Alternatively email jobs@medway.gov.uk quoting the reference.

Valuing people's differences, recognising their strengths.



2005-2009
Supporting New Businesses



POSITIVE ABOUT
DISABLED PEOPLE

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

KOS MEDIA (PUBLISHING) LTD TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. Advertisements will be accepted only on the express condition that the advertiser warrants that the advertisement does not in any way contravene any existing legislation and in particular the Trade and Description Act 1968 and the Consumer Credit Act 1974.
2. It is the responsibility of all advertisers to ensure that all advertising meets all forms of government legislation and KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd (the "media owner") takes no responsibility for liability in errors and omissions to the content of our media.
3. All rates quoted are subject to VAT at the rate currently in force at the time the advertisement appears.
4. All rates within the annual advertising agreement will be rate protected for 12 months from the first date of publication under the signed agreement.
5. Any unsuitable material posted on any website belonging to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd by the advertiser or any associated third party will be removed or refused. All passwords and security supplied to the advertiser by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd in relation to the use of the posting of material via the media owner's online administration tool will be the responsibility of the advertiser. The advertiser indemnifies KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd against any damages as a result of misuse of these privileges by either the advertiser or any third party given password privileges by the advertiser.
6. KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd reserves the right to change passwords intermittently to ensure the overall and ongoing security of its websites within the public domain.
7. Copyright and licenses for voice-over/music/photography or film for advertising promotions or otherwise within the various forms of media in print, online and moving film owned by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must have been sought, verified or paid for by the advertiser where applicable. Approval or permissions must have been given by any potential media owner voice-over or music. The advertiser must be able to verify any statements or claims (promotional or otherwise) in relation to their products/services promoted within any of the media offerings belonging to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd.
8. Where shrinkage of an advertisement occurs for whatever reason, the advertiser will be charged to the nearest full centimetre where it relates to the media owner's printed publications. This will NOT apply to full-page advertisements, which remain full pages even after shrinkage.
9. KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd reserves the right to omit or refuse any advertisement/commercial/web content without notice or explanation. In these terms the word "advertiser" shall be construed to include any person or organisation placing an advertisement on behalf of another.
10. A guarantee of insertion cannot be given and the media owners shall not be liable for any loss or damage caused by any error measuring within our marketing content. In no case shall the total liability of the media owner for any error or omission exceed the price charged by the media owners for that advertising.
11. No liability is accepted for any error or damage alleged to have arisen from the forwarding of replies to Box numbers, however caused, nor for the loss or damage to any artwork supplied.
12. Claims for any error or inaccuracy in your media messages with KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must be made in writing to the accounts department within 10 days of publishing.
13. KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd accepts no responsibility for any errors or omissions made on their websites by the advertiser.
14. KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd has the right to cancel the advertiser's annual membership without notice should the advertiser deliberately publish out of date material or content on any of the media owner's online digital platforms. KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd will seek to recover, in full, all outstanding invoices in relation to the signed annual membership as a result of the advertiser's negligence in this regard and reserves the right to claim damages for any potential vexatious action via the advertiser.
15. Advertisers are requested to check their advertisements after the first insertion. The media owner will not be responsible for any errors on subsequent insertions, which have not been advised to them in writing.
16. A minimum of one month's notice must be given in writing for any cancellation of the signed annual advertiser's agreement. Upon cancellation, all discounts from KOS Media's standard effective media advertising rate card (July 2008-June 2009) will be recalculated and adjusted accordingly in line with KOS Media's standard media rate card effective July 2008-June 2009 and will reflect the revised length of commitment denoted by the advertiser's written cancellation. Any surcharges, refunds or costs in relation to the production of the advertiser's TV commercial for the commitment set out within the advertiser's agreement will be met by the advertiser as per KOS Media's standard media advertising rate card (July 2008-June 2009). Discounts will be reapplied and any refunds or surcharges will be paid by either party within 30 days of the advertiser's written cancellation. Any other advertising placed must give a minimum of seven days' written notice and any discounts given for series bookings will be forfeited by the advertiser upon cancellation.
17. Seasonal contracts, Your Professional classified advertisements or any uplift advertising within the annual contract with the advertiser will be invoiced in full - at rate card - on receipt of any written cancellation of this contract within the 12-months.
18. All uplift advertisements must be booked in at least three months in advance of publication and will be subject to availability. All dates booked will be on a first-come, first-served basis.
19. The advertiser must agree to the date and time of filming of any online TV advertising commercial supplied by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd within the advertiser's agreement. Platinum, Gold, Silver standard of commercial. Should, for any reason, the advertiser not be available at the agreed time without giving sufficient notice (at least 48 hours), KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd reserves the right to charge for any further TV production by the media owner until the advertiser can supply a TV commercial produced at their own cost and risk outside of this agreement. The advertiser also accepts and agrees that this action would not reduce the value or cost of their membership. Any cost of changes required to the TV commercial throughout the advertiser's agreement will be borne by the advertiser outside of this agreement.
20. Each advertiser accepts that their ranking and position within KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd's search engine will be equal to those within their category (Platinum, Gold, Silver, Bronze, etc.) other than they will be ranked based on the search engine criteria of optimisation within their level (Platinum, Gold, Silver or Bronze).
21. Any delivery claims made by the advertiser or discount vouchers published within the print or online media of KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd and any actions as a result of the public or otherwise is the sole responsibility of the advertiser. Any claims resulting from this via KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must be met by the advertiser.
22. a. All credit accounts due for payment shall be notified to the Advertiser by the 30th day following the date of the invoice, time to be of the essence. All sums due to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd or RBS Factoring shall be paid in full, and the Advertiser shall have no right of set off in any circumstances.
b. In the event that payment is not received by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd or RBS Factoring by the due date, the media owner shall be entitled to suspend all further advertising until payment is received and/or repudiate the contract and make any surcharges for breaking the contract.
c. In the event that payment is not received by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd by the due date, the media owner reserves the right to charge interest on all overdue balances calculated on a daily basis at the rate of two per cent above the minimum lending rate of National Westminster Bank Plc from time to time in force.
d. Notwithstanding anything in these terms and conditions or implied to the contrary, in the event of the advertiser ceasing to use the services of KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd (for whatever reason), the whole amount of monies due from the Advertiser to the date of cessation shall fall due for immediate payment.
e. The Advertiser will be liable for all costs incurred by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd in the recovery of debts not paid by the due date.
f. Payment may be made by cheque, credit transfer, direct debit, cash and any major credit card.
23. Any discount which KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd may have agreed with the Advertiser shall be forfeited in the event of failure by the Advertiser to complete the contract or to meet the above credit terms.
24. Advertising Agency commission will be allowed to those advertisers recognised by the Newspaper Society, but shall not exceed ten per cent and will be subject to the terms of that recognition. This commission will not be allowed if the Advertising Agency fails to meet the terms.
25. All private advertisements and certain categories as laid down by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must be prepaid.
26. The Advertiser agrees to indemnify KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd in respect of all costs, damages or other charges falling upon the media owners or any of the companies within the KOS Media Group as the result of legal action or threatened legal action or threatened legal arising from the publication of any advertisement or advertising promotion.
27. An order for an advertisement shall amount to acceptance of these terms and conditions, and any condition or restriction imposed by an Advertiser shall be null and void in so far as it conflicts with them.
28. Copyright in advertisements produced wholly or partially by the media owners belong to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd. Advertisers may not reproduce such advertisements without the media owner's written consent.

All terms and conditions stated above are in place to protect the advertiser, the media owner and the communities they serve within the public domain as well as the beneficial rights of individuals and organisations. KOS Media will endeavour to always act reasonably in applying its terms and conditions.

Effective from June 2008

Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR
Tel 01303 817040 Fax 01303 817004
Email: info@kosmedia.co.uk



KOS
media

Award winning publications
www.kentnews.co.uk



New start for 2009

The Royal School of Military Engineering Support Opportunities

Mid Kent College (MKC) is delighted to partner the Royal School of Military Engineering (RSME) at Brompton Barracks, Chatham.

We provide the trades and technical training for over 8500 Royal Engineers each year and are recruiting a number of key posts to complement the teams already in place at the RSME.

Facilities Manager Circa £38,000 – to take full responsibility for the buildings & infrastructure (including workshops and classrooms) occupied by MKC Training Services on site at the RSME. Experience of the management of Electro/Mechanical services essential.

Workshop Assistant £19,008 - £21,000 – to provide practical support within the Fitter Department, assisting with the smooth running of the stores, light maintenance duties and the movement of equipment. Would suit someone with a mechanical background and a current Fork Lift licence.

ICT Site Engineer £19,736 - £25,441 – to provide support and maintenance in response to "logged" fault calls. Must be familiar with the configuration and use of all Microsoft desk top operating systems and experienced with configuring and installing computer hardware/ancillary components.

You will work within an established team, in a professional environment at a time when the RSME moves into an exciting phase of its development.

Whilst you will already have skills, qualifications and/or experience relevant for these posts, you will be fully supported and encouraged to gain further appropriate qualifications and accreditation that will develop you as an individual and benefit the RSME.

For an application form and job description please: Visit our website www.midkent.ac.uk
Email: rsme.recruitment@midkent.ac.uk
Telephone 01634 884555 (24 hr answer machine)

For an informal discussion on these positions, please call: Ken Pullan on 07725128661

Closing Date 5th December 2008

The College is committed to Equal Opportunities and to selection on merit. It welcomes applications from all sections of society. We particularly welcome and encourage applications from under represented groups including black, minority ethnic and disabled people.

MKC Training Services is an equal opportunity employer



New start for 2009

The Royal School of Military Engineering Engineering Opportunities: £35,000 - £40,000 (Snr Post c£45k)

Mid Kent College (MKC) is delighted to partner the Royal School of Military Engineering (RSME) at Brompton Barracks, Chatham.

We provide the trades and technical training for over 8500 Royal Engineers each year and are recruiting a number of key posts to strengthen the teams already in place at the RSME as the 30 year contract transitions to the Colleges management team.

We have opportunities for experienced engineers (ideally degree qualified) to move into lecturing roles. The Professional Engineering Wing (PEW) of the RSME develops military personnel into Clerk of Works to IEng, foundation degree and HND level.

We have positions for:

Electrical Engineers with DC, AC & single/three phase, power generation, transmission & distribution up to 11kV, generators & motors and domestic installations knowledge and experience.

Mechanical Engineers with fluid mechanics & thermodynamics, pipe design and pump sizing, H & C water supply/waste, large scale heating system design, ACR/HVAC control systems and lift technology knowledge and experience.

Construction Engineers with groundwork, timber, masonry & scaffolding, superstructures, finishes and services knowledge and experience.

Project Planner with experience of building site project management and work programming.

Civil Engineer (Snr post) ICE with "contractor" background.

You will work within an established team, in a professional environment at a time when the RSME moves into an exciting phase of its development and will be fully supported to gain additional relevant qualifications, memberships and accreditations that develop you as an engineer and benefit the PEW faculty.

For an application form and job description please: Visit our website www.midkent.ac.uk
Email: rsme.recruitment@midkent.ac.uk
Telephone 01634 884555 (24 hr answer machine)

For an informal discussion on these positions, please call: Ken Pullan on 07725128661

Closing Date 31st January 2009

The College is committed to Equal Opportunities and to selection on merit. It welcomes applications from all sections of society. We particularly welcome and encourage applications from under represented groups including black, minority ethnic and disabled people.

MidKent College is an equal opportunity employer



CAREERS IN HEALTHCARE ACROSS EAST KENT

Your Skills Our Vision

NHS
Eastern and Coastal Kent

From Sheerness to Dungeness, Ashford to Ramsgate, over 710,000 people depend on Eastern and Coastal Kent NHS – and we put them at the heart of everything we do. All our staff work hard every day to improve health and well-being for the local community, to tackle health inequalities and to provide high quality, responsive and efficient services, both directly and through commissioning.

As one of Kent's largest employers, we aim to employ and train a world-class workforce capable of meeting our many challenges. In return for your skills and commitment we offer wide-ranging staff benefits including real investment in personalised career development, flexible working, childcare, final salary pension scheme and in-house discounts.

Why not join us?

STAFF BENEFITS PACKAGE

- Final salary pension scheme
- Occupational sickness benefit
- Lease car scheme for eligible staff
- Occupational health service
- Childcare
- Enhanced maternity pay
- Enhanced paternity pay
- Enhanced adoption pay
- Flexible Working Policies
- Extensive Training Programs
- Long service awards
- In-house discounts & external benefits

SELECTION OF CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES

ADMIN AND CLERICAL / DOMESTIC SERVICES

Job Title: Ophthalmology Contracts Manager

Salary: £29,091 to £38,352 pa
Band: 7
Hours: 37.5
Location: Ashford
Ref: 767-ECC614
Closing date: 27/11/08

Job Title: Locality Commissioning Manager - Child Health

Salary: £37,106 to £44,527 pa
Band: 8a
Hours: 37.5
Location: East Kent
Ref: 767-ECC626
Closing date: 28/11/08

Job Title: Speech & Language Therapy Secretary

Salary: £14,834 to £17,732 pa
Band: 3
Hours: 30
Location: Herne Bay
Ref: 767-ECC630
Closing date: 28/11/08

NURSING AND MIDWIFERY REGISTERED

Job Title: Community Nurse X 2

Salary: £20,225 to £26,123 pa
Band: 5
Hours: 37.5
Location: Birchington / Westgate
Ref: 767-EIC628
Closing date: 26/11/08

Job Title: Community Nurse

Salary: £20,225 to £26,123 pa pr
Band: 5
Hours: 30
Location: Cliftonville
Ref: 767-EIC629
Closing date: 26/11/08

Job Title: Community Nurse

Salary: £20,225 to £26,123 pa pr
Band: 5
Hours: 25
Location: Birchington
Ref: 767-EIC627
Closing date: 26/11/08

Job Title: Intermediate Care Support Nurse

Salary: £20,225 to £26,123 pa
Band: 5
Hours: 37.5
Location: Dover / Deal
Ref: 767-EIC605
Closing date: 27/11/08

ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

Job Title: Occupational Therapist

Salary: £24,103 to £32,653 pa
Band: 6
Hours: 37.5
Location: Ashford
Ref: 767-EIC609
Closing date: 27/11/08

Job Title: Occupational Therapist

Salary: £24,103 to £32,653 pa
Band: 6
Hours: 37.5
Location: Folkestone
Ref: 767-EIC612
Closing date: 27/11/08

Job Title: Psycho-Social Occupational Therapist x2

Salary: £24,103 to £32,653 pa
Band: 6
Hours: 37.5
Location: Folkestone
Ref: 767-EIC559
Closing date: 29/11/08

Job Title: Occupational Therapist (Learning Disabilities)

Salary: £20,225 to £26,123 pa
Band: 5
Hours: 18.75
Location: Broadstairs
Ref: 767-ASH225
Closing date: 30/11/08

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The jobholder must have excellent verbal and numerical skills and be able to work with tight deadlines. Teamwork is essential and the ability to develop good working relationships both within the company and with external contacts is a must. Manufacturing background an advantage however training will be given.

You'll enjoy a full range of employee benefits. To apply please send your CV to HR Department, Fuji Seal Europe Ltd, Scimitar Close, Gillingham Business Park, Gillingham, Kent ME8 0RJ or alternatively you can email to jobs@uk.fuji-seal.com.

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Ref 06/103

Lecturer Early Years

2 posts at 37 hours per week, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 per annum

Ref 08/40

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Ref 08/152

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Supply Lecturer HE Business Enterprise and General Management to teach on HNC/ND and BA programmes.

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Supply Trainer Demonstrators

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Trainer Demonstrator Hospitality & Catering

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Ref 08/153

Skills for Life Initial Assessor

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Ref CLC1

Assistant Cleaning Coordinator

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Ref ACC1

Supply NVQ Assessors in Early Years

Various hours available, salary range from £18,295 - £26,232 pro rata per annum

Ref S/ASS/EY

For an information pack please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone) quoting the above reference.

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CLICK
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We provide the trades and technical training for over 8500 Royal Engineers each year and are recruiting a number of key posts to complement the teams already in place at the RSME.

If you are a Course Designer and would enjoy using your skills and experience to help develop the Military artisans of tomorrow, then this could be the ideal opportunity for you.

You will work within an established team, in a professional environment at a time when the RSME moves into an exciting phase of its development.

Whilst you will already have skills, qualifications and experience relevant for this post, you will be fully supported and encouraged to gain further appropriate qualifications and accreditation that will develop you as an individual and benefit the RSME.

If this sounds like the right role for you – get in touch now

For an application form and job description please: Visit our website www.midkent.ac.uk

Email: rsme.recruitment@midkent.ac.uk

Telephone 01634 884555 (24 hr answer machine)

For an informal discussion on these positions, please call: Ken Pullan on 07725128661

Closing Date 30th November 2008

The College is committed to Equal Opportunities and to selection on merit. It welcomes applications from all sections of society. We particularly welcome and encourage applications from under represented groups including black, minority ethnic and disabled people.

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Closing date: 19 December 2008

Contact: Mrs Julie Allen - julie.allen@nhs.net

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We require a full time Pastoral Support Assistant who would be prepared to act as a Cover Supervisor for 37 hours per week, term time only to start in January 2009. Salary will be according to age and experience and will be paid at Medway Grade D2 - Salary range £14,782 - £18,799 pro rata.

The school is expanding its team of support staff in order to enhance our pastoral structure and allow teachers to be at the forefront of learning. Do you relate well to young people? Could you support students at times when they meet barriers to their learning? Would you be able to liaise with parents, teachers and other professionals in support of individuals? Would you be interested in developing your skills with classes of young people? If so, please contact Mrs J Harrison for an application form and job specification on 01634 844008.

Any offer of employment will be subject to a satisfactory Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau check.

Closing date for applications
- Friday, 12th December 2008



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Ideally you will currently be working in the FE sector, either at a College or Private Training Provider, with teaching and appropriate practical experience, preferably within the area of plumbing. Your qualifications will include teaching or a willingness to undertake one, as well as a relevant vocational qualification.

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Closing date: 8 December 2008.



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Demelza Hospice Care for Children is a charity providing hospice services for children and young people with life-limiting illnesses and support for their families across Kent, East Sussex and South East London.

We offer specialist care in our 8 bedded residential hospice in Kent and in the family home through our dedicated Community Team working in East Sussex, South West Kent and South East London.

We are delighted to announce the opening of a further 6 bedded hospice in Wensley Close, Eltham early in 2009.

We have the following clinical vacancies across our area

Care Co-ordinator £35,631 - £36,983 (including high cost area allowance)

To provide hands on development for all individuals to achieve optimum levels of child focused care, develop team working and promote the Demelza ethos.

- An experienced children's nurse with palliative, complex needs and managerial experience.
- An excellent communicator at all levels.
- Able to recognise individual team member's strengths and develop any opportunities for improvement leading by practical example.

Children's Palliative Care Nurses, based in Sittingbourne or Eltham, South East London - Full and part time positions available.

- Children's Palliative Care Nurses £24,711 - £30,202 (plus HCA allowance for London based roles)
- Qualified children's nurse (RSCN, RNCB) or Learning Disability Nurses with suitable experience.
- Ability to demonstrate good clinical skills and up to date Continuing Professional Development.
- Experienced in working either in palliative care or children with complex needs
- Working a full shift pattern to include nights and weekends.

Community Children's Palliative Care Nurses, based in Greenwich - Maternity cover starting Jan/Feb 2009

- Greenwich Community Children's Palliative Care Nurse £31,970 - £37,031 (including high cost area allowance) Based at Queen Elizabeth Hospital and working out of the Community Children's Nursing Team, you will provide specialist services to life limited children and young people in the Borough of Greenwich.
- Experienced community children's nurses, preferably with a community degree.
- Experienced in palliative care and/or complex needs care.
- Working 37.5 to suit the needs of a case load, to include some on-call and weekends.

For an application pack please visit our website www.demelza.org.uk or call the recruitment line on 01795 845295.

For an informal chat about the roles or to arrange an informal visit, please call Lauren Clifford, HR Officer on 01795 845254.

Our South East London hospice has NO PARKING facilities for employees or volunteers.

Closing Date 5th December, 2008

Enhanced Disclosure checks by the CRB will be undertaken for successful applicants. Demelza is an equal opportunities employer and operates a no smoking policy. Registered Charity No. 1039651. Root Lane, Bobbing, Sittingbourne, Kent ME9 8DZ



Head of Resources/ Course Director

Churchill house is a long established school teaching English to international students.

We require an enthusiastic person for a permanent full-time senior teacher/admin position to maintain our large Resources Centre and assist in the planning and placement of students plus other day-to-day Teaching Office administration.

EFL Diploma and previous experience of Resources work and Course Directing essential.

See website at www.churchillhouse.co.uk for general information about the school.

Salary depending on qualifications and experience.

Send full CV to the Academic Principal, Churchill House, Spencer Square, Ramsgate, Kent, CT11 9EQ or email john@churchillhouse.co.uk



MidKent College

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint outstanding individuals in the following areas:

Financial Accountant

Ref: P0495

Salary: Circa £28,000

(dependant upon qualifications & experience)

In order to strengthen our central Finance team and support at the College as it progresses through a period of radical change, we are seeking to appoint a Financial Accountant. The successful candidate will be recently qualified or be at the final stage of their qualification.

Lecturer in Motor Vehicle

Ref: P0660

Salary: £25,092 - £32,898

(Starting salary and grade dependant upon qualifications & experience)

Due to expansion of our highly successful Automotive provision we are looking to recruit an experienced and highly motivated lecturer to teach at all levels on a range of Mechanical qualifications within our Motor Vehicle department. Ideally, applicants will have some Heavy Vehicle and/or Motorsport experience and be able to deliver engaging lessons to the highest standard.

A Degree, HNC or HND in an Automotive discipline is essential, as the successful applicant will be required to contribute to the development of higher-level qualifications within the department (e.g. HNC/Foundation Degree).

The department benefits from strong links with Buckmore Park karting circuit (where we run a National Diploma in Motorsport) and has a history of High Success rates across its full-time, part-time and work-based-learning provision.

Lecturer in Skills for Life

Ref: P0468

Salary: £25,092 - £28,719

A full time position has arisen within our Skills for Life team to deliver key skills to a variety of vocational areas. In addition some one-to-one support will be required and prior experience in embedding key skills and skills for life in a vocational and/or academic course would be advantageous.

Departmental Secretary/ Administrator

Ref: P0432

Salary: £11,599 - £17,200

The candidate will be based at our Maidstone site and will be able to demonstrate recent, all round experience and knowledge of administration procedures and have excellent organisational and IT skills. Due to the nature of the role the successful candidate will be required to work independently.

Technician in Beauty

Ref: P0133

Salary: £11,599 - £17,200

We are looking to appoint a highly motivated individual to provide support to learners and assist the Lecturers in running the various Clinics. You will be able to demonstrate good organisational and communication skills and relevant experience within the beauty industry would be advantageous.

Closing date: Friday, 5 December 2008

Mid-Kent College is working in partnership with RBL Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBL, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBL on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website www.rbl.co.uk for information, advice and guidance.

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and vulnerable adults and anyone applying for work with the College is expected to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to an Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the Personnel department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

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With Business Editor
TONY PATEY

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Productivity at the centre of attention

MANUFACTURING businesses can attend an open day at the new Renishaw Centre for Manufacturing Productivity, at the University of Greenwich at Medway, today.

The centre will demonstrate the latest technology and manufacturing systems aimed at making businesses more competitive.

Manager Ian Cakebread said: "This is an opportunity to see how the centre can benefit your business with a range of practical training courses and access to the latest tools and systems." For details see www.renishaw.info/Greenwich or call Mr Cakebread on 01634 883858.

KCC payments under scrutiny on website

BUSINESSES waiting for their money from Kent County Council can now sound off on a website.

Kent Labour has launched Kent Business Watch on its site www.kent-labour.org.uk where local businesses can report instances of late payments by KCC.

Cllr Roger Truelove, KCC shadow cabinet member for regeneration, said Prime Minister Gordon Brown had called on councils to pay bills to small businesses within ten days to help with essential cash flow.

"KCC's record isn't as good as it could be on paying invoices within 30 days, let alone ten," said Cllr Truelove.

RBS expands Thames Gateway presence

A MAJOR banking team in Kent has just got bigger.

The Royal Bank of Scotland's commercial banking team in the Thames Gateway has expanded to 30 people as it continues to service one of the South East's most dynamic and growing regions.

Robert Clare, who has been with the bank for 28 years, has taken up the team's director role after working in commercial banking in Sussex for the last five years.

His team is comprised of three sub-teams; business development, trading, and property.

Five additional staff, three in property and two in business development, have joined the team.

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KOS Media's Paul Stannard on our £1m challenge. See our business channel.

Innovative changes to support network

■ BY TONY PATEY

A HUGE shake-up of the publicly-funded business support structure across the South East is to take place over the next two years.

A new network of eight so-called 'innovation and growth teams' is being set up across the region. One will be in Kent, but the exact location has yet to be decided.

Teams – being generated by the South East England Development Agency (Seeda) – will focus on regional growth areas and will merge, under one umbrella, a range of business support activities.

It's all part of the Government's wide-ranging agenda to reduce the number of publicly-funded business support schemes and simplify the system by 2010.

Each of the nation's regional development agencies is working out its own programme and the team idea is Seeda's own approach.

In the South East, there'll be a greater emphasis on the role of Business Link, and Seeda is inviting applications from sub-regional partnerships to form teams.

Seeda says the initiative will give a broader approach to promoting innovation and growth.

Teams will target support on potentially high-growth businesses, in comparison with the county's enterprise hub network which focuses on early stage entrepreneurial individuals and companies to help bring ideas to market quickly and profitably.

Kent's hubs are currently based in Canterbury, Sittingbourne and Medway, but the idea is that the new teams will have more resources at their disposal.

A Seeda statement said: "Teams will be working with ambitious companies that are further along the development path and are aiming to make step changes in terms of their growth."

Marilyn Huckerby, head of Seeda's business innovation and growth, said: "It will represent better use of expertise, knowledge and best practice, and accelerate business through the



NEW NETWORK: Medway, Sittingbourne and Canterbury are Kent's enterprise hubs prior to the shake-up

growth stages from start-up to corporate."

She said the teams will "focus intensive support on a relatively small number of businesses". Each team will work with 250 companies at any one time.

Firms with growth potential will be picked where there is some perceived barrier or challenge holding them back and referrals would take place via Business Link through a range of initial avenues.

She added: "The new definition of innovation is broader in order to better target high growth potential. It doesn't just cover high-technology products but also new ways of doing things."

"The end game is to generate more revenue from new or significantly improved products and services."

Will the idea save any money? Seeda said: "The development of the teams is not about saving money. It is about bringing together the

funding that was going into a number of different high-growth business support activities so it can be targeted more effectively and can be used to catalyse additional services and support from local partners and stakeholders."

"The economies of scale that this generates mean that more money can be diverted to those companies with significant potential."

Sub-regional partnerships will be private and public local organisations, Seeda says each will be led by a so-called business champion, and will involve universities, research centres, Business Link, local authorities and, where appropriate, business associations such as the Institute of Directors and chambers of commerce.

Interestingly, they can also be concerned with "developing innovative solutions to local economic issues, for example, transport, ageing population and where businesses and public sector could work together".

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Sports village to go ahead despite troubled times

Picture: IGOR KUPCO



UNAFFECTED: Ashford Town's £8 million sports village project is still on course for 2010

THE credit crunch will not affect Ashford Town's proposed £8 million sports village development, according to football club chairman Don Crosbie.

The Ryman League club announced plans for the ambitious project in June, which will include a brand new 5,000 capacity stadium, fit for the Football League, which will be built on the Homelands site.

Also part of the extensive plans is the construction of six football pitches, a hotel, an indoor tennis centre, cycle track and fitness centre.

The club hopes to use the proposed football pitches as a base for

FOOTBALL

their youth set-up to try and nurture talented players in the hope they will progress into the first team.

Despite the economic situation, Crosbie is continuing to work on the project and believes it is still on course to be built in two years time.

He said: "We are still on course to reach our target. As far as we are concerned the credit crunch has not affected the project."

"The way I see it, if everyone stopped working on projects because of the financial situation

then nothing would get done.

"We are continuing and by the time we are ready to build this in two years time, the recession could be over."

Crosbie revealed that consultants have been employed to carry out a feasibility study for the plans to justify the need for the development to Ashford council.

"Once the results have been gathered the club can put in a planning application to the council," he said.

"It's a bit frustrating that the process takes a long time because I think it is obvious that there is a need for this development in Ashford."

Ashford to bounce back after break

AFTER a break in fixtures last weekend, Ashford RFC get back to Kent 1 league action this weekend as they host Old Olavians.

A first-round cup defeat at the hands of struggling Sheppey ensured Ashford were given a fortnight to prepare for this weekend's game.

With only three games to go until the Christmas break, a good finish to the first half of the season could see them rise from fourth bottom into the top half.

After Old Olavians, they visit relegation threatened Erith before a home game against third-placed Cranbrook in the final encounter before the break.

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Watch Kent's Joe Denly and Rob Key in the nets ahead of their trip to India

Ville win boost for ladies' title hopes

ASHFORD Ladies' title hopes in the Kent Women's Outdoor Hockey Premier Division improved last weekend as they cut the gap at the top to three points.

They won for the sixth time in eight games with a 1-0 win against Cliftonville to stay second, while league leaders Old Williamsonians lost their first game of the season.

Ashford have every chance of maintaining their good run this weekend as they visit second from bottom Bexleyheath & Belvedere 2nd XI on Saturday.

The Ladies' 2nd XI won only their second league game of the season, beating Holcombe 3rds 4-0.

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STALEMATE: Paul Jones (left) had the best chance to break the deadlock but his shot agonisingly hit the post as an Ashford side including Jimmy Bottle (right) drew with Whyteleafe



Picture: IGOR KUPCO

Lovell in hunt for striker as toothless Town draw again

FOOTBALL

■ BY TOM HOWARD

Ashford Town 0

Whyteleafe 0



Ashford starting XI



Subs: Browne (Seania 20), Humphreys (Brathwaite 68)

STEVE Lovell believes a new striker will be the end to his side's problems after their second consecutive goalless draw.

It extended Ashford Town's winless streak to 11 games, but it was a lack of composure in front of goal that cost them all three points on Saturday.

The result prompted Lovell to intensify his search for more fire power up front.

He said: "I will keep looking for a centre forward to get us goals but there are not too many around."

"I am trying. I have got a couple I can address and have a look at this week. Bradley Spice will be back in the reserves. He will be fresh as he has been out for a month with family issues."

Town never looked like losing the game at Homelands and should have taken the lead on 22 minutes.

Jimmy Elford played in Paul Jones, who rounded the keeper only to slip and see his shot come off the post.

Minutes later Mitchell Sherwood beat Whyteleafe goalkeeper Matthew Mann, but he

couldn't find the net and Jones' free header went wide.

In the second half, Whyteleafe were marginally stronger, but Town came closest to breaking the deadlock when Mann produced a stunning one-handed save to deny Sherwood.

Town goalkeeper Seb Barton ensured he kept a clean sheet on his debut with a smart save late on. The game ended in a goalless draw much to the disappointment of Lovell.

He said: "We had loads of chances but we just can't stick the ball into the net especially in the first half."

"The game should have been dead and buried in the first half. We are just not having any luck in front of goal. We had one save to make in the game. Defensively we looked solid but we can't get that illusive win."

Striker Claude Seania may miss this Saturday's clash with Kingstonian after being forced off with a hamstring injury during the first half.

Fellow forward Mark Lovell will be back playing in the reserves in two weeks after being sidelined with a cruciate ligament injury picked up in August.

Denly hopes to profit from passage to India

CRICKET

BY GLENN PEARSON

FOUR Kent players jetted off to India on Friday, looking to boost their claims for a place in Kevin Pietersen's England side.

Rob Key, Joe Denly, Robbie Joseph and Amjad Khan are part of the England Performance Programme squad which left for Bangalore, at the start of a month-long tour of India and a chance to train with the England Test squad.

Key will captain the England side in the two games scheduled for Bangalore and Mumbai. For Denly, it will be the second time in the last two years that the 22-year-old has toured India as part of the programme.

The Whitstable-born batsman enjoyed another successful season opening the innings for Kent and hopes to profit from the experience in India, where he will also get the opportunity to play with former England captain Michael Vaughan.

He said: "Last year I didn't have a great time of it. I didn't enjoy it if I'm totally honest because I got ill four times, but it's a great opportunity to go out there and progress my game."

"There is an unlimited time to bat, you can bat all day as there is an endless number of net bowlers. Last year I went to work on spin to give myself more scoring options and I think that worked out well."

"I will be looking to do the same and tight-

ening up in defence against the new ball. I hope to come back fitter, stronger and a better player for Kent."

Rumours have been circulating that other counties were interested in signing the Kent youngster, something Denly firmly denies.

He said: "I haven't heard anything. I am tied in with Kent for the next two years. It's where I want to be, I love playing at Kent. I signed an extension to my contract until 2011 and hopefully in that time there will be a point to extend it even more."

While the club go through a transitional period due to the loss of Neil Dexter, Matt Walker and Yasir Arafat, the county claim there will be opportunities for some of the Academy youngsters, such as Sam Northeast, Charlie Hemphrey and Matt Coles.

Having graduated from the Academy under the stewardship of Paul Farbrace, Denly is acutely aware of the difficulties for young players.

He hopes his experience of stepping up from the Academy to the first team at St Lawrence is something the new batch of youngsters will be able to draw from.

"I found the quicker you learn things that work for you at the Academy, the better you will be. I narrowed down my strengths and worked hard on those," he said.

"I worked a lot on my weaknesses, but you sometimes forget that the strengths are what got you where you are and you should concentrate on those."

"I'm pretty good friends with the Academy lads, so I like to think they could come and talk to me about their batting if they needed to."



CUT ABOVE: Joe Denly at the crease for Kent

FOOTBALL



DESIRE: Sean Ray has questioned the commitment of some of his team-mates after goalless draw

Ray questions players' desire

ASHFORD Town captain Sean Ray admitted his side need to win games soon if they want to battle for promotion via the Ryman South play-offs at the end of the season.

The 27-year-old defender has played the majority of Ashford's games this season, but after Saturday's 0-0 draw with Whyteleafe, he believes his side must go on an unbeaten run before Christmas if they are to reach the top five.

He said: "We seem to be always fighting against things but if we get that win it will give us a confidence boost. We have got to change things quickly otherwise we will be ruled out of the play-offs."

"By Christmas we have got to have an unbeaten run with two or three wins. There are probably two really poor sides in this league and there is not a lot separating the rest. If we can get a run going we could go anywhere."

The Nuts and Bolts have gone 11 games without a win in all competitions, with their last victory being a 2-1 win at Metropolitan Police on September 27.

The defender has questioned the desire of some of his team-mates after their second half performance against Whyteleafe. However, he feels once the goals return the wins will follow in tow.

He said: "I don't think it is a lack of confidence as the dressing room seems to be okay. We seem to be running out of ideas and it doesn't look like we are going to score."

"In the second half I think there was a lack of desire. We were not winning the second balls and let Whyteleafe play. We didn't look like losing the game but neither did they. They were not a great side but we played down to their level. If we could have converted one or two chances we would have gone on to win the game."

"You can have as much ability in the world, but if you have not got any desire we will not win games. We need three wins out of the next four games."

LEAGUE TABLES

(Not including midweek games)

PREMIER DIVISION ONE SOUTH

	P	W	D	L	Gd	Pt
1 Kingstonian	17	11	5	1	+23	38
2 Metropolitan Police	18	9	7	2	+13	34
3 Cray Wanderers	17	10	3	4	+15	33
4 Dulwich Hamlet	17	9	4	4	+14	31
5 Fleet Town	16	8	5	3	+16	29
6 Worthing	15	8	4	3	+8	28
7 Walton & Hersham	18	8	4	6	+2	28
8 Folkestone Invicta	18	7	6	5	+3	27
9 Merstham	16	8	3	5	+2	27
10 Sittingbourne	16	8	2	6	+0	26
11 Godalming Town	17	7	4	6	+8	25
12 Leatherhead	16	7	3	6	-4	24
13 Ashford Town	18	4	9	5	+5	21
14 Eastbourne Town	17	6	3	8	+1	21
15 Whyteleafe	17	6	2	9	-5	20
16 Burgess Hill Town	16	5	4	7	-2	19
17 Walton Casuals	18	4	4	10	-12	16
18 Chipstead	17	4	4	9	-19	16
19 Croydon Athletic	17	4	3	10	-8	15
20 Whitstable Town	18	4	2	12	-21	14
21 Corinthian-Casuals	18	3	4	11	-21	13
22 Crowborough Ath	17	3	3	11	-18	12

FIXTURES

Saturday, November 15

Ryman Division One South
Kingstonian v Ashford Town

Weather decimates league programme

SUNDAY LEAGUE

THE weather again played havoc with the Ashford & District Sunday League programme as two-thirds of the fixtures were cancelled.

The only tie to go ahead in the Kent Sunday Premier Cup saw Kennington unceremoniously dumped out of the competition, losing 10-1 to Simla. Mark Collins scored the consolation for the Ashford side.

Only one fixture went ahead in the Premier Division, where a Richard Moon-inspired Trojans beat Aldington 5-2.

Moon hit a hat-trick to complement strikes from George Dyke and Adam Roffey, while Stuart Daniels and Chris Gillam scored late on for Aldington.

Division One looks increasingly like a three horse race as the unbeaten trio all registered victories.

Mersham had six different scorers in their 6-2 win against Ashford Dynamo and Highfield were also in the goals as they beat Fox Sunday 7-2, with Dan Taylor and James Standen helping themselves to hat-tricks.

Hamstreet kept pace, beating Red Heathens 2-0 thanks to goals from Aaron McGuinness and Cullan Mairs.

Galacticos had to dig deep to come from behind in the clash of Division Two's top two. Tyler Clarkson put Appledore in front, but Mark Kerry bagged an equaliser and Steve Rice settled the game with a goal late on.

Bromley Green reserves are still very much in the title race after beating Wye Monarchs 5-2.



TOP: Galacticos came from behind to beat Appledore

Division Three leaders Shadoxhurst show no signs of flagging as they won 3-1 at Newchurch, while Park Farm Rangers remain the pace-setters in Division Four. Their 4-3 win against Mersham reserves was their tenth in 11 games.

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